

UK RESULTS HOTLINE 00555 2200

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH

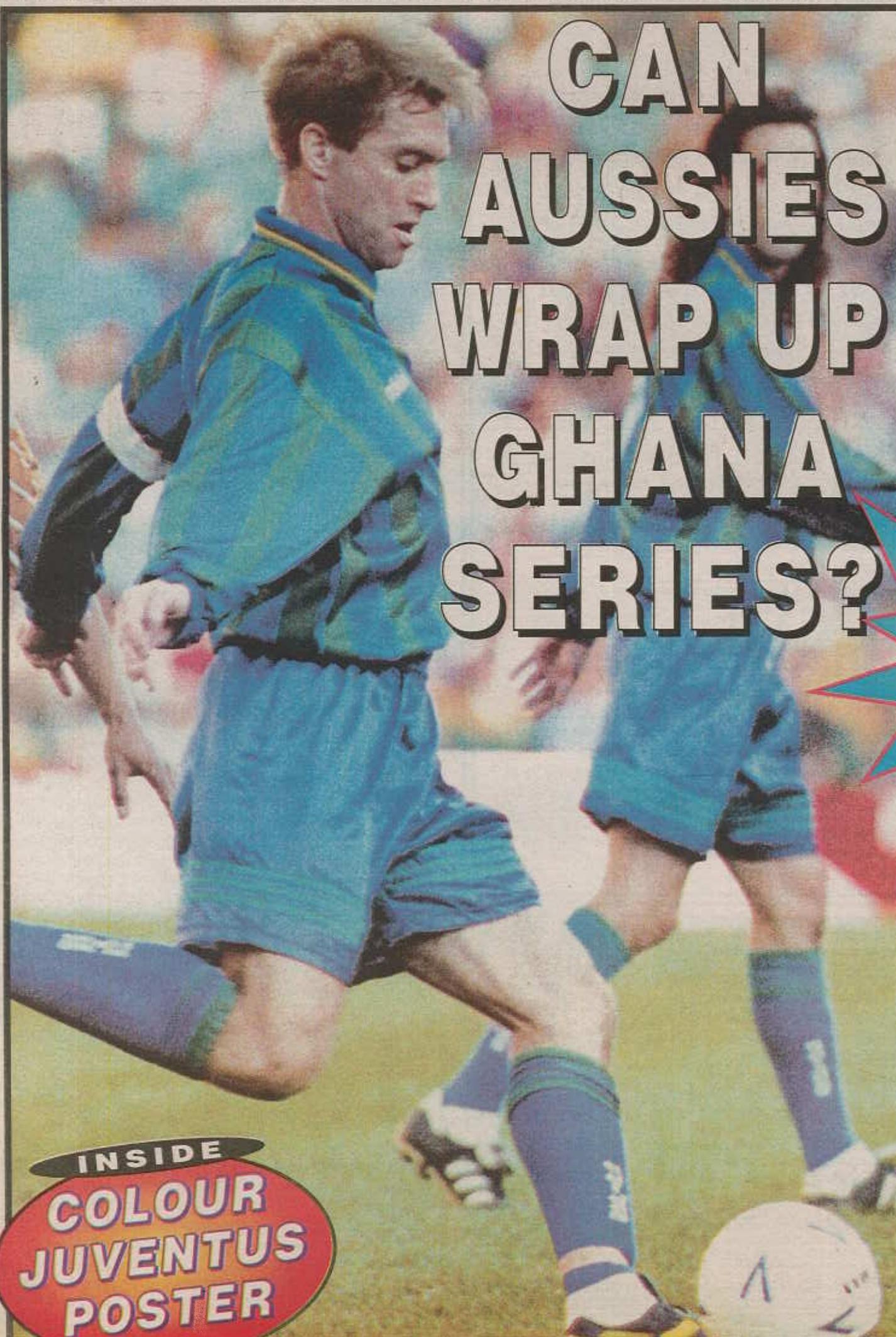
SOCER

VOL 16 No.726 - TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 1995

• REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST — PUBLICATION No NBQ5726

WEEKLY

\$2



INSIDE

**COLOUR
JUVENTUS
POSTER**

CAN AUSSIES WRAP UP GHANA SERIES?

CRAIG **MOORE:**

Living a footballer's dream

STATE OF ORIGIN

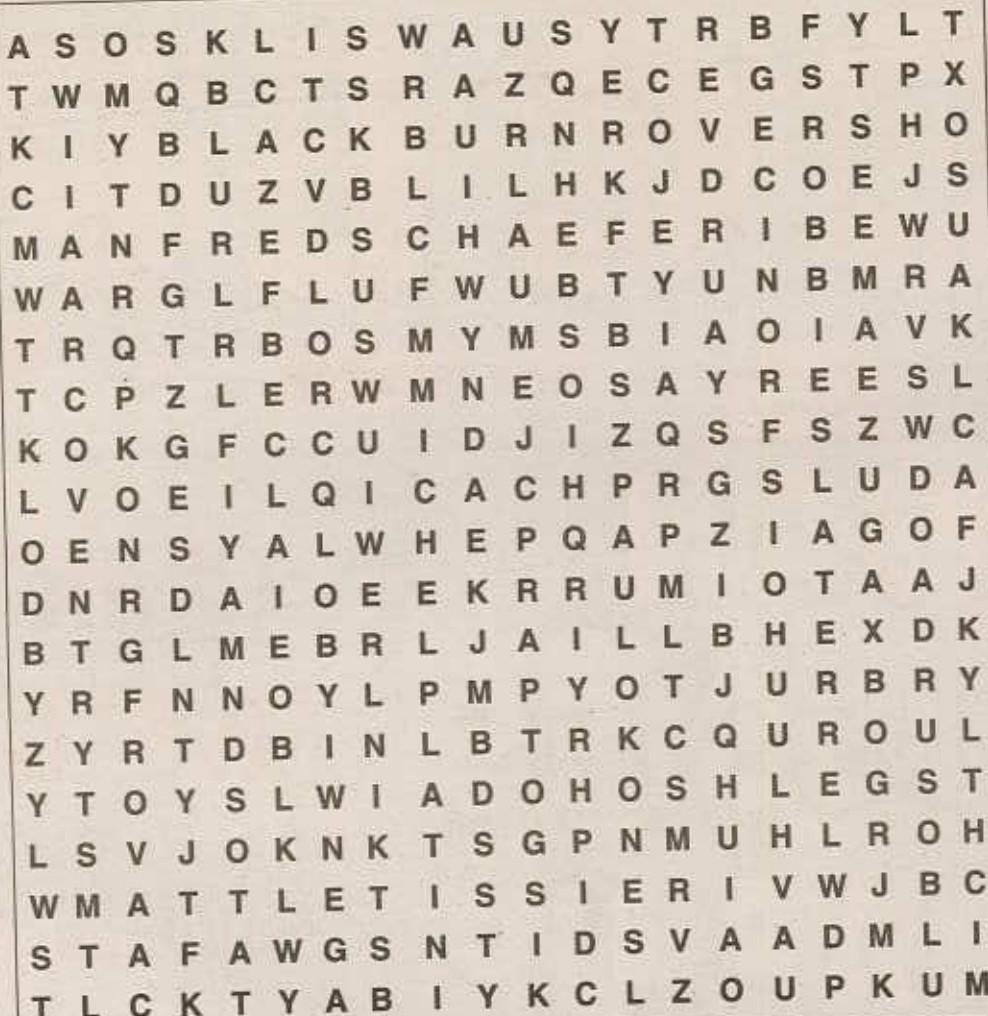
NSW draw first blood



Farina's Socceroo farewell

FIND-A-STAR

★ FIND-A-STAR ★



AND TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answer the questions below then find the answers in the FIND-A-STAR above

- 1) Name the former Socceroo who has been to 'hell and back' having been fined for alleged match fixing in Singapore? _____
- 2) Name the new coach of Marconi? _____
- 3) Who is the only Socceroo playing overseas, to withdraw from the Australian series against Ghana due to the death of his mother? _____
- 4) Which club does Slater play for? _____
- 5) Who has replaced George Graham as manager of English Premier League Club Arsenal? _____
- 6) Which rising Socceroo star playing in Belgium has had a \$9 million offer knocked back by his club, Club Brugge, and finished third in two player awards - the Golden shoe and the Professional Footballer of the Year in Belgium? _____
- 7) Which side beat all the odds in the 1983 European Champions Cup final by beating a Juventus side featuring a galaxy of stars including Platini, Boniek, Zoff, Gentile, Rossi, Tardelli, Scirea and Cabrini? _____
- 8) The 1985 European Cup Final was won by Juventus over Liverpool, 1-0. But this match was to be remembered for other reasons - namely this was the day of the Heysel Stadium disaster who scored the penalty goal in this tragic page in Soccer's history? _____
- 9) In the English Premier League who is the "South Coast Messiah"? _____
- 10) Where has English Soccer's 'Mr Bigangles', Ron Atkinson finally landed as a new boss? _____

Compiled by Darren Ally

AUSTRALIAN & BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY

1-9 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe 2037. Tel (02) 660-2033 Fax (02) 692-0649 * 660-7485 TELEX AA22141
Published every Tuesday by FL Press Pty Ltd. 1-9 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe NSW 2037

DISTRIBUTION
NSW/ACT: FLP Pty Ltd. 1-9 Glebe Pt Road, Glebe 2037 Tel: (02) 660 2033
VICTORIA: FLP Pty Ltd 276 Russell St, 2nd Floor Melb 3000. Tel: (03) 419 2000
QUEENSLAND: Queensland Newspaper Camp-

bell St, Bowen Hills 4006 Tel: (07) 252-6011
SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Advertiser Newspaper Ltd. Waymouth St, Adelaide 5000 Tel: (08) 218-9329
WEST AUSTRALIA: Pan Hellenic Emporium, 67 James Street, Perth 6000 Tel: 328-4779

STAFF
EDITOR: Anthony Raineri
CHIEF SUB: Vince Battatello
MELBOURNE EDITOR: Greg Blake
STAFF REPORTER: John Economos
LAYOUT: Sally Chant
Nektarios Kougelis

TYPESETTING: Mary Quarterly
PHOTOGRAPHY: JRP
Phone: 521-4912
Jorge Gonzalez
Phone: 015 709-318
SCANDESK: Billy H.

CORRESPONDENTS
SYDNEY: Alistair Russell
Alfred Hiatt
Con Stavros
Glenn Davis

WOLLONGONG: Phil Murphy
WESTERN AUSTRALIA: Richard Kreider
SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Peter Krupka
WOMEN'S CORRESPONDENT: Janene Mar

ADVERTISING
Sydney: John Economos (02) 660-2033,
Vince Battatello (02) 660-2033
Melbourne: Greg Blake (03) 663 4411.
Recommended and maximum price \$2.

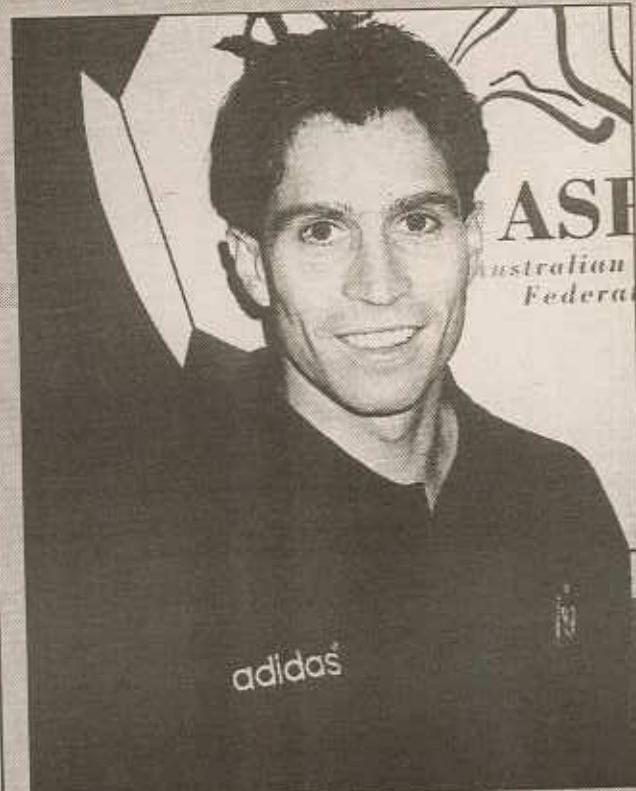
* All material appearing in Australian and British Soccer weekly is copyright and reproduction in any form whatsoever is expressly forbidden without the written permission of the publisher.
The publisher accepts no responsibility

for unsolicited manuscripts, illustrations or photographic material.
Deadline for contributions, articles and advertising is 7 days PRIOR to issue date.

STAR PROFILE No 62

Frank Farina

— AUSTRALIA —



Date of Birth: September 5th, 1964.
Birthplace: Darwin, Northern Territory
Previous Clubs: Mareeba United, A.I.S., Canberra Arrows, Sydney City, Marconi, Club Brugge, (Belgium), Bari-(Italy), Strasbourg-(France).

Current Club: Lille-(France)

Striker

"Finger-bone"

Nickname: Fulltime pro

Marital Status: Married to Julie (son Jordan 3-years-old)

Great desire to win

Occupation: Most Difficult Opponent: AC Milan's Alessandro Costacurta

John Markovski

Your Favourite Local Stadium: Sydney Football Stadium

Paul Okon

Favourite Overseas Player: Club Brugge

Honours: Australia's 1983 World Youth squad,

Australia 38 A Caps and 66 total for national team.

What Do You Miss Most About Australia: The weather, my country,

family and life-style.

Whilst Playing Overseas: The weather and great distance from home.

To keep playing and

enjoy myself whilst winning things for the club I'm playing for.

Ambitions After Retiring: Hopefully to put something back into the game back in Australia either as a coach or in administration

Most Memorable Moment: My last game for Marconi winning the 1988 NSL Grand Final against Sydney Croatia

Golf and spending time with my family

Spaghetti

Good wine

Mercedes Benz-220C

X-Files

The Untouchables

Al Pacino and Demi Moore

No preference really

Hard Rock

Least Preferred Music: Brisbane Strikers' Alan Hunter

Pet Hates: Loosing any match as well as flying

Special Advice To Young Players: To always never think any of your dreams are impossible and to work hard to get there

Person You Would Most Like To Meet Greg Norman

By JOHN ECONOMOS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- | |
|-------------------------------------|
| 6.....Letters to the Editor |
| 10.....NSW Super League |
| 11-12-13...Victorian Premier League |
| 14.....Western Australia |
| 15.....Australian Tables & Results |
| 18.....Women's World Cup |
| 19.....World Briefs |
| 24.....World Results |
| 25.....World Briefs |
| 26-27.....South America |
| 28-29.....UKSSD |
| 30.....POOLS and UK Results |
- Front Page Photo:Paul Wade
Frank Farina (window) - Australia

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS \$99
Send to P.O. Box 146,
Broadway, NSW 2007

Australia v Ghana

Moore, Zelic & Vidmar to start in Adelaide

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Eddie Thomson is expected to make no less than eight changes to the Australian line-up that beat Ghana so convincingly last Sunday in Sydney.

Australia again clashes with Ghana tomorrow night (Wednesday) at the Hindmarsh Stadium in Adelaide.

Thomson is expected to

Eight changes in Australia's line-up

bring into the side another four of Australia's foreign based players.

The Bundesliga new champions, Borussia Dortmund's midfielder Ned Zelic and Rangers' defender Craig Moore together with Sheffield United's striker Carl Veart and the now Feyenoord-bound Aurelio Vidmar, are

all expected to make their first appearance in Adelaide against the Ghanaians.

Thomson stated to ABSW last night: "It's not that I was unhappy with any of the lads in the Sydney match."

"I just want and must see as many of my foreign-based players in action as possible whilst they are here."

"Don't forget we still have that match against Argentina soon to get ready for," warned Thomson.

Moore is expected to slot in at the right-back position to replace the injured Tony Vidmar who will miss tomorrow's match through a hamstring injury sustained last Sunday in Sydney.

Vidmar's older brother, Aurelio, will together spearhead Australia's attack with former Adelaide City striker Carl Veart.

Heavyweight striker, John Markovski will come in at wide left midfield whilst the Melbourne Knights' sweeper, Steve Horvat, could come into the midfield to add some steel in the centre-line.

The pacey Stan Lazaridis from West Adelaide and who is West Ham-bound early next month, will replace Jason Van Blerk at left-back whilst Jason Polak will come in at right midfield in place of Paul Wade.

To facilitate an extra man in the 'engine-room' (Horvat), Thomson will change Australia's formation from a 5-3-2 line-up to a



Tony Popovic: Embarks on a run upfield against Ghana.

more orthodox 4-4-2.

This expected reshuffled line-up should see a powerful attacking thrust channelled down Australia's left line where the highly skilled Markovski backed by the speed to burn Lazaridis could prove to be a thorn for the African defence.

Goalkeeper: Kalac.
Defence: Moore, Tobin, Ivanovic, Lazaridis.
Midfield: Polak, Zelic, Horvat, Markovski.
Strike-line: Veart, A. Vidmar.



A Man of the Match performance: Australian midfielder Paul Okon tries to escape his Ghanaian marker in Sunday's match.

STAR PROFILE

No 63

Paul
Okon

— SOCCEROO —



Date of Birth: April 5, 1972

Birthplace: Parramatta

Previous Clubs: Marconi Juniors, Marconi

Current Club: Club Brugge (Belgium)

Position: Sweeper or central midfielder

Paolo

Nickname: *Paolo*

Marital Status: Single

Occupation: Full-time professional

Best Aspect Of Your Game: Attitude & vision

Most Difficult Opponent: All of them

Most Impressive Local Player: Steve Corica

Your Favourite Local Stadium: Marconi

Stadium

Favourite Overseas Player: Roberto Baggio

Favourite Overseas Club: Juventus

Honours: Captain of 1991 World Youth

squad, 1992 Barcelona Olympic

Games and senior Australian team.

What Do You Miss Most About Australia While Playing Overseas: Wonderful

weather and the people

What Do You Dislike Most About Playing In Europe: Europeans

still consider Australians as being

inferior to them.

Ambitions In Soccer: To achieve my full potential.

Ambitions After Retiring: To put something back into Australian Soccer.

Most Memorable Moment: Playing in the

1991 World Youth Championship

Semi-final at Benfica Stadium against

Portugal which we lost 1-0.

Hobbies Outside Soccer: All sports

Favourite Food: All Italian food

Favourite Drink: Mineral water

Car You Drive: BMW 318is

Favourite TV Show: Any Soccer programme

Favourite Movie: Forrest Gump

Favourite Actor/Actress: Tom Cruise and Angie McDowell

Preferred Music: Whatever is the latest

Least Preferred Music: Techno & Hard Rock

Favourite Comedian: Graham Arnold

Pet Hates: Lazy people

Special Advice To Young Players: Always

be ambitious and always be

honest with yourself

Person You Would Most Like To Meet: Roberto Baggio

By John Economos

Eddie Thomson: Australia's coach.

LEICHARDT TIGERS S.C.



Applications for 1996 Youth League Coaches for

U/13s U/14s
U/15s U/16s

APPLICATIONS CLOSE JUNE 30TH

Requirement Level 2

Send Applications to:

Vince Aiello
PO Box 12
Haberfield 2045

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY — JUNE 20, 1995

Moore dreams fulfilled for Craig

BY ALFRED HIATT

Glasgow Rangers' Craig Moore is living out a footballer's dream.

At just 19, Moore, who is set to make his Socceroo debut in Adelaide tomorrow (Wednesday), has established himself as a regular starter for the Scottish giants.

He played 26 games during the just-completed Scottish Premier League season, in which Rangers yet again creamed the opposition to win their seventh consecutive championship by 15 points.

Next season he will play alongside Paul Gascoigne and Brian Laudrup for Rangers, who are aiming to add the European Champions' Cup to their bulging trophy cabinet.

For now, he is content to be part of a team which is streets ahead of any other club in Scotland, and whose fanatical supporters make every match a memorable experience.

"The atmosphere for home games is something else," says Moore.

"If there's no football on television, people don't know what to do."

In fact, Moore admits the passion of his club's fans can go over the top.

The legendary "Old Firm" rivalry between Rangers and city rivals Celtic is so great that

players' whole seasons are judged on their performances in derby games.

"I've never ever known as much hatred," admits Moore. "It really is quite bad."

Despite winning the league, the season was, by Rangers' standards, just average.

The team failed to win either the Scottish FA Cup, or the Coca-Cola Cup, and suffered an embarrassing loss to AEK Athens in the European Champions' Cup.

"We were not pleased about getting knocked out of the cup competitions," says Moore.

"And it was really disappointing to drop out of Europe so early. That's the one thing Rangers have not won, and we'd love to win it next season."

To that end the club has forked out big money on Gascoigne, and Rangers manager Walter Smith has been chasing top Romanian striker Florin Raducioiu.

For many observers, Rangers remain the only Scottish club capable of holding their own with the best in England and on the continent.

The star of their season was undoubtedly the brilliant Danish winger Laudrup.

According to Moore, the inspirational former Fiorentina and AC Milan player proved there is a place for skill and flair in the often drab Scottish League.



Craig Moore: "Living a dream."

"Brian Laudrup is absolutely brilliant," enthuses Moore. "I've never seen anyone like him. He was our main player this season, floating behind the front two in a free role."

"He's got a superb first touch, and the defenders just can't get near him. Off the field he's just one of the boys — you can get a laugh with him."

Moore believes Laudrup could form a lethal midfield partnership with Gascoigne, whom he is looking forward to meeting.

"I think he [Gazza] will be great for the club. He's such a character, at least the dressing room will be more lively. I'm sure he'll mix well with Laudrup."

Manager Smith has used the young Australian chiefly as a right full-back, though Moore hopes to move into the stopper's role in a couple of seasons.

Given the breakneck speed at which soccer is played in Scotland, Moore's role on the flanks forces him to do a lot of running.

He says he has had to adjust from the more leisurely speed of the Australian game.

"It's completely different over there. In Australia you get much more time on the ball," explains Moore.

"At times the football in Scotland is not the best, because the pace is so fast."

"As a full-back, you're constantly running up and down the pitch. You never get more than two touches before someone moves in and whacks you one."

Moore's selection in the Socceroo squad caps a rapid rise.

The former AIS graduate made his name at the 1993 World Youth Cup, when he was one of Australia's outstanding players.

His performances in defence for the Young Socceroos drew interest from European clubs, with Arsenal and Rangers leading the charge. Moore chose the Glasgow club — mainly because "the atmosphere was a lot better" — and made his debut in the 1993/94 season.

He spent most of that year playing for the reserves, but his apprenticeship served him well when he became a mainstay in the first team last season.

The Queenslander is now a central plank in Eddie Thomson's plans for the national under 23 team, which plays its qualifiers for the Atlanta Olympics later this year.

"My next aim is to play in the Olympics," Moore told ABSW.

"Unfortunately, I've not been able to see much of the team, though the squad looked good when it came to Scotland [on its European tour of 1994].

"I hope the real test of my ability is still to come."

Certainly the pressure cauldron that is Ibrox should prepare Moore well for the challenges which lie ahead — be they the European Champions' League, next year's Olympic Games, or the 1998 World Cup.

Richard Alagich's School of Soccer

PACIFIC-UMBRO SOCCER CAMPS

Established 1978

PO Box 661, Dee Why NSW 2099.

Telephone: (02) 971 61 31 Fax: (02) 982 4853

NON-LIVE IN

for 6-14 year olds

**BLACKTOWN
CARINGBAH
EASTWOOD
EMU PLAINS
FRENCHS FOREST
ILLAWONG
LANE COVE
NARRABEEN
ROCKDALE**

Evans High School
Endeavour High School
Epping Boys' High School
Nepean High School
Frenchs Forest High School
Menai High School
St. Ignatius College
Narrabeen Sports High School
St. George Soccer Stadium

LIVE IN

for 10-16 year olds

NSW ACADEMY OF SPORT

Narrabeen

Two Non Live-In Sessions To Choose From:

- Session 1: Half day...from 9am-12 Noon
- Session 2: Full day...from 9am-4pm

First week of the holidays:

DATES: July 3 to July 7, 1995

Blacktown: Evans High School

Walters Road, Blacktown

Endeavour High School

Caringbah: The Boulevard, Caringbah

Epping Boys High School

Eastwood: Great Western H'way, Emu Plains

Illawong: Menai High School

Gerald Road, Illawong

Narrabeen: NSW Academy of Sport

Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen

Second week of the holidays:

DATES: July 10 to July 14, 1995

Frenchs Forest: Forest High School

Frenchs Forest Road, Frenchs Forest

St. Ignatius College

Lane Cove: Tambourine Bay Road, Lane Cove

St. George Stadium

Rockdale: Bestic Street, Rockdale

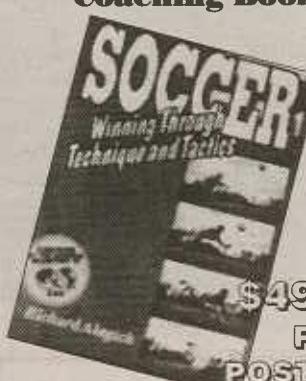
LIVE IN CAMP: JULY 3 - 7, 1995

NSW Academy of Sport

Wakehurst Parkway, Narrabeen

FIFA Endorsed World Wide Publication

Richard Alagich's Coaching Book



"Soccer: Winning Through Technique and Tactics- for field players" (500 pages)

Telephone 977 2992
for an order form.

PACIFIC SOCCER CAMPS IS GRATEFUL TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS



Enjoy
Coca-Cola

Australian School of Soccer
AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH
SOCER
WEEKLY

KFC
Make your job EASY!

KENNARDS
McKenna's

THE
SOCCER
STATION

McDonald's

Pizza Hut

Humphrey's
Newsagency
Manly

Gooses T-Shirts
Aust.

red rooster

Fairfax Community Newspapers
FCN

umbro

Australia v Ghana

Okon the magnificent

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

AUSTRALIA opened the three Test series against an internationally inexperienced but highly athletic Ghana last Sunday at the Sydney Football Stadium with a splendid 2-1 win that marked Frank Farina's farewell international.

The "Green and Gold" hit the front as early as in the fifth minute when a free-kick from 20 metres out by Australia's panther-like right-back Tony Vidmar ricocheted off the Ghana-wall and flashed into the target.

Seven minutes from the break, Australia's Man-Of-The-Match, central midfielder Paul Okon engineered to double the scoreline. Okon swung another free-kick from 25 metres out that hung well in the air allowing Australia's lanky targetman Graham Arnold to out-climb the Ghanaian defence and head into the target his 16th international goal.

Australia's two first-half goals seemed to have rattled the Ghanaians' confidence. Whenever the Africans did try to hit back, Australia's extremely well-organised defence of Tony Vidmar, Alex Tobin, Tony Popovic, Milan Ivanovic and Jason Van Blerk thwarted every attack.

Six minutes after the



FRANK FARINA: Captains Australia for his last appearance for the national side last Sunday against Ghana at the Sydney Football Stadium. Below: Socceroos celebrate Vidmar's goal.

break Okon, who was absolutely blitzing the black stars in attack as well as in defence, spun out three

Ghanaian defenders to set up Van Blerk from right in front. But Van Blerk's point-blank effort was well saved by goalkeeper, Ben Kluvi.

With Vidmar coming off with a hamstring injury at the break, Jason Polak came on at right-back, Van Blerk pushed into the left of midfield and Steve Corica was switched from left to right side of midfield.

Okon in the 75th minute burst through and blasted on the run a vicious shot on target that had substitute goalkeeper Addo fully stretched to make the save.

Ghana pulled back a consolation goal with just seven minutes left of play.

Skilful midfielder, Eben Hagan back-heeled a ball forward that cannoned off central marker Tony

Australia's twin-strikers Farina and Arnold were a pleasure to watch upfront whilst the triple central defenders of Tobin, Popovic and Ivanovic were majestic in their duties.

AUSTRALIA: Kalac: Vidmar (Polak 46th), Tobin, Popovic, Ivanovic, Van Blerk; Wade, Okon, Corica; Farina (Markovski 78th), Arnold.

GHANA: Kluvi (S.Addo 64th); Bai doo, Addo, Dodoo, Dacosta; Yahya, Hagan, Gargo, Whittle; Johnson, Kuma.

Referee: Gerry Connelly (Australia). Crowd: 18,446.

Besides Okon having a magnificent match,

Popovic's shins falling nicely for striker Ablade Kuma to slot past the Australian goalkeeper, Zeljko Kalac.

Will no longer be playing for Australia."

When questioned about his future at club level, Farina answered: "I still haven't made up my mind what to do, but just before I left France to come here I received another offer from a Belgian club which if I take up I must go back by the 28th of this month.

"I haven't decided whether to go back to Europe or stay here with a Club," ended Farina.

Meanwhile Australia's World Cup captain, Paul Wade, stated after the match: "The boys played very well and said it all on the pitch.

"But I just feel so bad having missed that header from right in front.

"My forehead was wet and the ball skidded badly off it.

"And would you believe I was practising headers all week at training?"

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came." When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

"We were able to hold up the ball until support came."

When questioned would he change his mind about retiring, Farina answered: "I made up my mind after the Argentina match but Eddie (Thomson) spoke to me and talked me into playing this match.

"Yes, it has sunk in that I

"Australia played much better than Ghana in the first half."

"We moved and passed the ball better in the second half."

"My players tried their best but couldn't help admire Farina's skills in attack."

Australia's ace-striker Frank Farina playing his last national appearance, reflected: "It was nice to hear everyone's good feelings for me on the day."

"I felt we played well and we were strong at the back."

Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper



Five cents is better than nothing

Dear Sir,

Every week for months now I have read letters written on how to improve soccer in Australia, some with interest, others with amusement. I would like to put in my five cents worth, and approach this subject from three angles.

Firstly, ETHNIC BACKGROUND. Plenty has been said about this issue. We shouldn't forget that soccer came to this country via immigrants, primarily from Europe, and for this we should all be grateful, or soccer would never have been established here at all. BUT, politics and wars have no place in Australian soccer, and the "my country against your country" mentality must be replaced with "my city or my state".

This is a much healthier rivalry which comes automatically in this country and will eventually lead to more interest and more spectators. Look at the rivalry in the AFL when Adelaide, Perth or Fremantle play. Ethnic bickering damages our sport, and most of the young people doing the arguing were born here anyway. You can be proud of your heritage, city and NSL team all at the same time.

Secondly, MARKETING. Where does all the money go? I can't believe that we complain that

soccer gets little or no media coverage, yet the most important medium is ignored — advertising. There is almost nothing on TV or the papers except during the finals.

The game must be promoted ALL SEASON. Look at what basketball has achieved in five or six years, far more than soccer has achieved in nearly 20 years. Why? Marketing. Entertaining ads, promotional material, TV coverage and public appearances — ASF take



hungry Australia, with extra-time and penalties. It's still the fairest way to decide games, and to date no better alternative has been found.

hungry Australia, with extra-time and penalties. It's still the fairest way to decide games, and to date no better alternative has been found.

Anyway, I know this letter is long but I've had my say. With some changes, subtle not drastic, and promotion, soccer's profile must improve. Good on you David Hill if your suggestions are adopted. Sixteen teams, three rounds, 45 games a season is great. More is better.

Lastly, THE GAME. Don't mess with the game, three points for a win, one for a draw. No penalty shoot-outs — they're crap and have not achieved anything. No extra spectators, sponsors or TV coverage. Finals need to be retained, first past the post doesn't work in finals —

Lance Librandi,
Paradise SA.

PRESTON not so silly

Dear Sir,
I would like to respond to Mark Taylor's letter on 6th of June 1995 (Preston — No way!), where he says that Preston Lions applying for the National Soccer League is silly because they are ethnic through and through. Why is it silly?

Mr Taylor if you look at the NSL in season 1994-95, you will see that 11 of the 13 clubs in the league are ethnic and a few of them like South Melbourne, West Adelaide and Heidelberg even have Greek flags on their emblem.

Further more, Heidelberg has a Greek flag and a symbol of Alexander the Great on its emblem.

Where as Preston, which is supported by the

Macedonian community, has dropped its ethnic name "Makedonia", and added Lions as its nickname so it can appeal to the wider community in the area and not just the Macedonian community — and it has paid off.

Now Mr Taylor, tell me who is more ethnic?

Preston Lions would be the ideal candidate to get into the NSL. If you look at its National Soccer League record minus the last two seasons Preston played there, you would see that Preston was almost always in the top six at the end of every season and had two bad seasons and unfortunately was relegated.

Furthermore, Preston also

brought good crowd figures to its matches and especially any match Preston played against Melbourne teams always had at least 7000 spectators.

How often does that happen now? Not often at all I believe. As for saying it's ex-players like to demonstrate their ethnic background in public. All I can say to that is that John Markovski is a Morwell Falcons player now and he is very proud of his Macedonian background and he is permitted to do what he wants in his own time, even if it is wearing a Macedonian T-shirt in public.

Robert Veleski,
Thomastown, Vic.

CHOKING FOR RECOGNITION

Dear Sir,

I recently attended the Soccer Summit in Melbourne as a representative of my club Blacktown City. One point that was raised over and over again was the perceived need to de-ethnicise the game in Australia or at least after the perception that the sport in our country belongs to non-Australian ethnic groups.

Imagine then if you can a game of football played between two clubs each representing a district rather than an ethnic group, played on an excellent playing surface (a fact confirmed by the English Premier League side, West Ham United, when they used the ground for training during their recent Sydney visit), played under first class floodlights suitable for colour television transmission, watched by an Australian crowd comfortably seated in a modern grandstand and where afterwards players, officials and spectators of both clubs can retire to a large, modern clubhouse to discuss the excellent game just played.

An impossible dream? No. It occurred at the Gabbie Stadium, Seven Hills, last Saturday night when the Blacktown City Demons played against the Warringah Dolphins. Fans from both teams were happy to shout their support using their team's Australian names with no unnecessary references to foreign countries.

The new boys on the block. Messrs Hill and Negus et al have gone on record as saying this is the way forward for football in our country. It's a pity they weren't there to witness the proceedings, although it's not for the want of asking as far as Blacktown City is concerned. We again invited Mr Hill or anybody else from the ASF to be our guests at the match so that they could see that their vision for the future of our game can be achieved.

They once again, however, were unable to attend. It may be that they are all too busy re-inventing the wheel.

We have heard much about the new regime at the ASF getting back to the grassroots and talking to the stakeholders i.e. the players and spectators, but whenever we provide them with this opportunity we are ignored.

As a club we are wholly Australian based and run, own our own stadium and licensed premises and together with the Blacktown-District Soccer Football Association, we are responsible for the day to day running of football in the Blacktown area of Sydney, a district with over 6,000 registered players. In terms of population this area is expected to become the third largest city in Australia at the beginning of the next century. We would have thought that somebody from football's ivory towers would like to talk to us about the grassroots of the game.

In fact, our expression of interest to join the National Soccer League, submitted some six weeks ago, has not even been acknowledged by the powers that be.

The ASF says that football in our country is now a business and should be run as one. It's a strange way to run a business when the Board charged with this responsibility continually ignores the existence of a club which epitomises its supposed view of how football can be a success in Australia.

Publication of this missive may stir someone at Rockdale into action although based on our experience this is unlikely. It would be nice to think though that we may get a courtesy call before the make-up of the 1995-96 National League is announced.

We will not however, be holding our breath.

Don O'Regan,
Secretary, Blacktown City SC

Whinging poms the problem

Dear Sir,

Dennis Costopoulos for President! A constructive and reasoned analysis of where we should be going if we are to get this great game off the ground in this corner of the world. Asia is where we are and where we belong in international and club competition.

As an English born and educated enthusiast who has lived in this country for 40 plus years may I suggest that one of the problem ETHNIC groups in this game is the whinging Pom. I have been involved in club and association administration and it seems to me that if someone raises a negative comment or plays politics for their own advantage to the detriment of the game it usually comes attached to a pommy accent. Many of them seem to think that England still owns the game it invented and gave to the world.

There are a huge number of people from the UK who are the backbone of this sport. They work their butts off and dip in their pocket to keep the game going as do people from other European origins. These are the people who the game risks losing if the ASF does anything rash. Ignore or eject those who try to use the game as a political forum but please don't try and divorce clubs from their traditional roots. If you do that means getting rid of United, Spurs, Celtic or Hammers links as well as Olympiakos, Juventus, Ajax or Croatia links. Believe me there are fewer political activists at a Knights v City match than a UK v Ireland game.

Soccer is INTERNATIONAL! that is its magic, its variety and its drawing power! Let's not fall into the trap of making the local game a poor copy of the AFL or the ARL competitions. We need the challenge of an Asian Cup winners' Cup, and Asia League Cup and all the other international competitions that will make all Australians, whatever their background turn out to support their club or their country.

Tony Martin
Robina, Qld.

OUT WITH THE OLD THANKS

Dear Sir,

It is between fits of laughter that I write this letter. Am I to believe what is being written? Do my eyes deceive me? Unfortunately not! Apparently, Paul Wade will once again captain the Socceroos in their series against Ghana. I have but one question... WHY??

I have doubts about his selection into the squad let alone his stronghold on the captaincy. Am I, and millions of other loyal soccer supporters, expected to believe that he is one of the best 11 players Australia has to offer. Of the 23 players under consideration for final selection in the three match series, is he really one of the elite? Paul Wade must compete with the likes of Robbie Slater, Jason Van Blerk, Steve Corica and Aurelio Vidmar for selection and it amazes me that he is still in the running.

Paul Wade's primary asset and skill doesn't exist on the park, but rather, in the press. He is media friendly and based in Australia making him easily accessible to both the public and the press. Also, Paul Wade was fortunate enough to be born with the right surname and skin colour for the job. He is an Anglo-Saxon representing a national team and a national league that is not so. Let's be honest, part of the reason Paul Wade has retained the captaincy is the same reason that people like Milan Ivanovic, Mehmet Durakovic and Josip Biskic will never be his successors.

What I find even more astounding are Paul Wade's declarations that he hopes to be a part of Australia's next World Cup aspirations. Does he know when to give up? A man struggling to be selected as a part of his club side and forced to transfer mid-season due to poor form, can hardly be considered to lead the Socceroos into the next era of Australian soccer.

A season of change has swept through the Australian Soccer Federation and soon the National Soccer League will undergo significant changes. Perhaps this would be the perfect time for Paul Wade to make a gracious exit from international soccer. Face facts Mr Wade, your 15 minutes of fame are almost over. It's time to step out of the limelight before we collectively push you out. Out with the old, in with the new.

Melinda Cimera,
St Albans, Vic.

Australia v Ghana

The kid from Cairns exits an Aussie hero



Frank Farina: As fans will remember him.

BY ALFRED HIATT

Frank Farina, the kid from Cairns who became a star in Europe and a Socceroo hero, walked off the Sydney Football Stadium to a standing ovation after his 66th and last appearance in Australian colours.

It was a fitting exit for a man who added an extra dimension to Australia's attack over the last decade, and trail blazed his way into the best leagues in the world.

Farina, made captain for the day by coach Eddie Thomson, was substituted 10 minutes from time so that the 18,446 strong crowd could thank the skilful striker for his years of loyal service to the Socceroos.

He shook hands with the entire Australian team, then waved to the sideline and kissed the captain's armband - before accepting flowers, champagne and a congratulatory embrace from Thomson.

"To come off to that

reception was a good feeling," reflected Farina afterwards.

"Today was a bonus, and I'm just proud I got the chance to play one more game before an Australian Crowd."

The former Marconi and Canberra Arrows goalscorer turned in a vintage performance for the Sydney public.

Paired up front with long-time Socceroo colleague Graham Arnold, it was like a flashback to Farina's glory days in the 1980's and early 90's.

At 30, and looking as fit as ever, the diminutive attacker showed he still has the speed and skill of old.

So well did he play that Thomson was left puzzling what all the talk about farewell appearances was about.

"Frankie's too young to retire," insisted Thomson. "Him and Arnold were great today."

"Frank Sinatra makes comebacks, so why not

Farina?"

Farina, a veteran of two World Cup qualifying campaigns and the 1988 Seoul Olympics, said he was now looking forward to supporting an Australian side which seems poised for bigger and better things.

As France '98 approaches the new breed of Socceroos had added flair to the traditional Australian qualities of toughness and hard work.

Players like man-of-the-match Paul Okon, who has followed Farina's footsteps through Marconi and Club Brugge in Belgium, appear to hold the key to the country's future at international level.

For that Farina must take a share of the credit. He proved that the best Aussies could reach the top in European football, yet still keep their links with the national team.

Last Sunday, his reward was to leave the green and gold the best possible way - a winner.

The Frank Farina farewell luncheon

Tributes galore for pioneer Frank

BY TED SIMMONS
OF AAP

Socceroo Frank Farina remained true to his image of a 'nice guy' amidst praise and story telling at his farewell luncheon at the Sydney Cricket Ground last Thursday.

Farina made his last appearance in Australian colours when he captained the Socceroos against Ghana at the Sydney Football Stadium on Sunday.

He accepted praise from Australian Soccer Federation chairman David Hill and AIS coach Ron Smith and endured tales of his playing days from fellow Socceroos Graham Arnold and national coach Eddie Thomson.

Starting as a junior in Cairns, Farina won his way to the AIS, the national league, the national youth and senior teams and on to European clubs.

He made more than 60 appearances for Australia, was twice national league Player of the Year, twice leading goal scorer and the inaugural Oceania Footballer of the Year in 1988.

"I hope in the future to be able to give something back to Australian soccer and channel back what I've learned in Europe," he said.

Young Australians will need to go overseas because that will be the future of Australian soccer where they can get experience and return to the national side.

"It's special when people say nice things about me but I had some good role models to look up to like John Kosmina and Steve O'Connor in the 1984 national team."

"Playing with them provided me with a good basis and helped develop the strength of character and fighting spirit which holds Australia in good stead overseas."

Farina burst onto the national scene in 1983 when he scored the second half equaliser in the 1-1 draw against Mexico in front of 112,000 people in Mexico City in the World Youth championship finals.

His speed, skill and finishing ability carried him to become a leading scorer in Europe and a multi million dollar transfer to



Eye on the ball: Frank Farina makes a run during the Ghana match last Sunday. INSET: Frank and Julie Farina.

Italian club Bari.

Arnold, in between memories of playing and travel incidents, praised Farina for his venture into Europe and easing the path for subsequent players.

"Ten years ago, European clubs would not touch an Australian player and the success of Frank's move is not generally realised," he said.

"He made it easier for us and all European-based players thank him for what he has done."

Thomson, who was coach of Sydney City when he signed Farina for \$7,000, selected last year's World Cup qualifier against Canada as the striker's best game.

He said he covered every blade of grass and when the match went to penalties, offered to take and then converted the last penalty to put Australia against Argentina.

Hill named Farina as the first great soccer export to Europe and said he epitomised everything good about the Australian soccer attitude and performance.

"Our future looks bright and a professional national league would be great," said Farina after receiving a number of presentations.

"In the past I've had plenty to say about how the ASF was run but looking at the past 10 years I can see it has come along heaps."

"I hope to be playing club football in Australia for another two or three years."

"After that who knows - one day I might be president of the Australian Soccer Federation!"

STAR PROFILE

No 65

Carl
Veart

— AUSTRALIA —



Date of Birth: May 21, 1970
Birthplace: Whyalla
Previous Clubs: Salisbury United, Whyalla, Croatia and Adelaide City, Sheffield United

Current Club: Sheffield United
Position: Striker
Nickname: None
Marital Status: Married to Samantha
Occupation: Full-time professional
Best Aspect Of Your Game: Pace
Most Difficult Opponent: All of them
Most Impressive Local Player: Damian Mori and all of the Australian squad

Your Favourite Local Stadium: Hindmarsh Stadium
Favourite Overseas Player: Eric Cantona
Favourite Overseas Club: Manchester United
Honours: Australian Olympic Squad, senior Australian squad

What Do You Miss Most About Australia Whilst Playing Overseas: Friends, and family

What Do You Dislike Most About Playing In Europe: Hardly anything
Ambitions In Soccer: To play in the English Premier League and play in a World Cup Final with Australia

Ambitions After Retiring: To set up my own business, maybe an electrical shop

Most Memorable Moment: The atmosphere in Buenos Aires when Australia played Argentina in the second leg World Cup qualifier

Hobbies Outside Soccer: Golf and fishing
Favourite Food: Steak
Favourite Drink: Cordial and water

Car You Drive: Ford Escort
Favourite TV Show: Sport programs and British Sky

Favourite Movie: Silence of the Lambs
Favourite Actor/Actress: Sean Connery and Sharon Stone

Preferred Music: Whatever is on radio
Least Preferred Music: Techno

Favourite Comedian: Seinfeld

Pet Hates: Hardly any

Special Advice To Young Players: Always listen to your coaches and have as much fun while you can

Person You Would Most Like To Meet: The manager who offers me a Premier League contract

BY JOHN ECONOMOS



Steve Horvat: The sweeper will probably be missing from the Knights' line-up next season.

SAAD BANNED

Soccer star Abbas Saad (below), banned for life from playing in Malaysia after his conviction in a match-fixing case, was released on bail after being arrested after a football official complained of intimidation, police said last week.

The 27-year-old Lebanese-born Australian was arrested after a complaint by Singapore team manager Omar Ibrahim that Saad had threatened him by telephone, police and football officials said.

Saad, one of Asia's top footballers and a prolific goal-scorer, surrendered himself to the police for arrest and was released on bail of \$S2,000 (about \$A2,000), a police spokesman said.

Football Association of Singapore (FAS) executive secretary Tan Eng Yoon said Saad had, in an apparent burst of anger, recently telephoned Ibrahim and threatened to assault him.

The threat was made several days before Saad's conviction Tan said.

Ibrahim testified in the trial of the player on match-fixing charges which ended with Judge Khoo Oon Soo finding him guilty of involvement in a match-fixing conspiracy and fining him \$S50,000 (about \$A50,000).

The judge said he was not jailing Abbas because he was only a secondary conspirator in the fixing of Malaysian premier league matches last year.

Tan said the FAS wrote to the Asian Football Confederation and soccer's world governing body FIFA informing them of the conviction and the ban imposed on Saad.

A worldwide ban could follow, ending the career of Saad, who was reportedly looking forward to an Australian call-up for the 1998 World Cup when the investigation into his activities began earlier this year.



Thomson and Wade

Knights place faith in youngsters

Melbourne Knights coach, Mirko Bazic, will place his faith in the National Soccer League champions deep reservoir of talented youngsters should they lose some of their key players to overseas clubs as expected.

Between two and four of the brightest jewels in the Knights' crown could be moving overseas following the season ending 1-1 draw with Japanese J League Club, Yokohama Flugels, at Yokohama Stadium.

The two-game tour of Japan climaxed the most successful season in the Victorian club's history as it won its first NSL title and also captured the NSL Cup.

Star striker Mark Viduka and Socceroo defender, Steve Horvat, are both looking at playing overseas.

Additionally, captain and midfielder Andrew Marth could also move to a foreign club and full-back Fausto De Amicis expressed interest in trialling with a Japanese

club during the Knights tour of that country.

"We will find new players if two or three players maybe go to Europe, no problem," said Bazic speaking from the Knights Yokohama hotel.

"We are a young team but we will find players again. Ante Kovacevic, Zoran Markovski, Damian Grganovic and Damian Vojtek are young players and very good players," added Bazic who expects to back up with the Knights next season.

In addition, Knights officials have not ruled out dipping into the transfer market should they need to replenish their playing resources.

Underlining the strength of the champion squad was the fact Olyroo squad striker Joe Spiteri was on the bench for both of the Knights games in Japan.

Spiteri would appear to be a ready made replacement for Young Socceroos captain Viduka

who confirmed he had probably played his last game for the Knights before moving overseas.

Viduka revealed he was weighing up the possibility of spending a season with a Japanese club before making the anticipated jump to a European team.

Meanwhile, the Knights visit to Japan may not be

Hill, would improve the situation which last season saw the Knights lose five key players to the Olyroo squad for the best part of two weeks because of a four-nations tournament in Australia.

"Last year my players were out of their club for 14 days for friendly games against Korea, Denmark and Japan and they came back on the day we played Wollongong and we lost," said Bazic.

"For a little bit of time we lost the premiership lead, why? for nothing."

"Now with a new chairman of the ASF, I suppose it will be much better than before."

"I expect it to be much better because in the two years I have been in Australia, there has never been a meeting between the national coach and a group of club coaches."

"In Europe you have meetings many times between the national coach and the club coaches."



their last venture into Asia as club officials are investigating the possibility of a pre-season tour of China.

Bazic was adamant the appointment of new Australian Soccer Federation chairman, David

Marconi - The rebuilding begins



Eric Hristodoulou signs on the dotted line earlier this month as Marconi coach Manfred Schaefer looks on.

Players test positive for drugs

Australian coach Eddie Thomson and captain Paul Wade called for heavy penalties for any player testing positive to drugs.

The duo's comments follow ASF chairman David Hill's revelation that an inquiry will be held into the first known cases of Australian soccer players testing positive to drugs.

Hill would not name the players, saying only that the tests were conducted a few months ago and that the matter will be examined by a tribunal hearing in the next fortnight.

Thomson and Wade

expressed surprise at the news and said they did not know the identity of players involved.

Thomson said a severe penalty would be in order if players were found guilty of drug use.

"I don't know anything about it, but if it's true I hope there's a stiff sentence handed out," he said. "I'm not going to comment further until I know the facts, but a person is innocent until proven guilty."

Wade said soccer players would gain no advantage by using performance-enhancing drugs.

"Look at me and I've

played over 100 internationals - you don't benefit by using drugs in soccer," the slightly-built captain said.

"It's definitely not rampant in Australian soccer, but if anyone is found to be using illegal drugs then they deserve a severe punishment and need to be made an example of," he said.

"If they got three years that would in effect end their careers," he said.

Wade said it was important for the future of the sport to eradicate illegal drug taking.

"We must show the youngsters that it's a clean, safe sport."



Paul Wade: "You don't benefit by using drugs in soccer."

GOOOAL! OR WAS IT?

What a miss: This picture shows an almost certain goal for Paul Wade. But the ball inexplicably went wide of the post. At least Wade could joke about it at the post-match press conference.



TONY VIDMAR OFF TO EUROPE

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

Tony Vidmar, Australia's magnificent World Cup right-back was late last week sold to Dutch club NAC Breda for a reported bargain transfer fee of \$300,000 plus. Vidmar was signed up on a two-year contract.

The lanky mobile Adelaide City defender who turns 25 next month, will link up at Breda with fellow Australian World Cup striker, Graham Arnold, the man who stitched up the deal for Vidmar.

This will be Vidmar's second crusade into Holland as he again endeavours to break into the Dutch first division.

A relatively inexperienced Vidmar in 1992 joined club side Ekeren but due to a personality clash with a coaching staff member the young Australian defender was totally ignored and left to languish in the reserves for months before deciding to return to Adelaide City.

"I hope to be leaving for Holland immediately after Australia's last match against Ghana in Perth this week," stated Vidmar.

"I want to get over there fast to organise an apartment with the Club and settle in before pre-season training kicks off."

"I have just returned from a 10 day training stint with them and met some of the officials there."

Graham Arnold who has been with the Club for six months and will be there for the coming season again, did all the spade-work for me.

"This is another stage of my career and a real challenge which will help me cement also my future with the national team here," stated Vidmar.

Since making his spectacular debut for Australia in June 1991 against England at the Sydney Football Stadium, Vidmar has already rattled up no less than 21 full internationals to date.

He will be joining NAC Breda under a



Tony Vidmar: Off to Holland to crack crosses for "Arnie".

new coach taking over.

Vidmar added: "The coaches in the Dutch first division apparently have to all have been former players with the national team."

"I want to be the best at what I do and this is my next step in my Soccer by going over there," ended Vidmar.

Vidmar who has made his trademark with his slashing raids down the flanks (right line for Australia and down the left for Adelaide City) to send in bullet crosses into the box, will be eagerly welcomed by Arnold.

"I hope he brings with him plenty of those Aussie crosses with him over there as I could do with them coming over to the back stick," snarled the always dry and moustachioed Arnold.

What do I have to do?

Long serving Socceroo Graham Arnold, who scored against Ghana last Sunday must be wondering what he has to do to gain recognition and respect from Australian fans and officials.

"I've spent six years playing in Europe, never played in the reserve grade or missed a match and have scored more than 70 goals," he said.

"But I get more respect in Europe than I do at home. I've had an outstanding career in Europe and Australia and all I got on my

last return was abuse for my game against Argentina.

Arnold has told Socceroo coach Eddie Thomson he is unsure about being included in the team to travel to Argentina at the end of this month.

He said he needed a break and if he went to Argentina, would have to miss out on seeing family and friends because pre-season training started in Belgium on July 5.

The aggressive striker has trimmed down to a fighting 80 kilos and has already made plans to return to Australia as a player-coach

at the end of his European career.

He made an informal bid when national league club Marconi was looking for a new coach for next season and believes he still has plenty to contribute to the sport.

Arnold has two more seasons to complete in Belgium before his contract expires after two years of turmoil.

"When I left JC Roda I was signed by club Charleroi but was not welcomed by the new coach," he said.

"I was starved of the ball

and scored three times in eight weeks. When I complained, I was put in midfield and played my last game at fullback.

"I told the club I was finished and would prefer to return to Australia. But there had been contact from another club, NAC Breda and I was loaned to them where I scored 12 goals in 15 games."

"Because I was playing well and feeling good, NAC paid \$150,000 to extend my loan for the next season but I will then have to go back to Charleroi for another year."



Graham Arnold: Struggles to keep his balance after shooting for goal against Ghana last Sunday.

ROUND 18											
SUPER LEAGUE FIRST GRADE											
Illawarra Lions	4	St George Saints	1								
Rockdale Suns	0	Adamstown R'bud	1								
Bonnyrigg WE	0	Blacktown City	2								
Mt Druitt Town	2	Canterbury Berries	2								
Bankstown City	1	Sutherland Sharks	3								
Stanmore Hawks	2	Leichhardt Tigers	1								
Warringah Dolphins	3	Macarthur Rams	0								
UNDER 21											
Illawarra Lions	0	St George Saints	3								
Rockdale Suns	1	Adamstown R'bud	3								
Bonnyrigg WE	2	Blacktown City	2								
Mt Druitt Town	3	Canterbury Berries	1								
Bankstown City	P	Sutherland Sharks	P								
Stanmore Hawks	P	Leichhardt Tigers	P								
Warringah Dolphins	P	Macarthur Rams	P								
UNDER 18											
Illawarra Lions	P	St George Saints	P								
Rockdale Suns	0	Adamstown R'bud	3								
Bonnyrigg WE	3	Blacktown City	0								
Mt Druitt Town	1	Canterbury Berries	0								
Bankstown City	P	Sutherland Sharks	P								
Stanmore Hawks	P	Leichhardt Tigers	P								
Warringah Dolphins	P	Macarthur Rams	P								
SUPER LEAGUE											
1ST GRADE											
Blacktown City	18	12	2	1	3	27	11	16	41		
Warringah	17	10	3	1	3	30	12	18	37		
Bankstown City	17	7	5	0	0	36	29	7	31		
Leichhardt Tigers	18	7	3	4	4	21	15	6	31		
Sutherland Sharks	18	8	1	5	4	24	20	4	31		
Canterbury M'vill	17	7	4	2	4	22	23	-1	31		
Rockdale Suns	17	6	4	0	7	21	22	-1	26		
Macarthur Rams	18	6	3	2	7	14	22	-8	26		
Illawarra Lions	18	6	3	1	8	27	33	-6	25		
Mt Druitt Town	18	5	4	1	8	27	36	-9	24		
St George Saints	17	4	5	1	7	24	31	-7	23		
Bonnyrigg Eagles	18	6	2	0	10	27	25	2	22		
Adamstown R'bud	17	4	1	2	10	18	22	-4	16		
Stanmore Hawks	18	3	2	2	11	13	30	-17	15		
**Bankstown City Lions to be deducted 4 points at the end of the season											
UNDER 21											
Blacktown City	18	13	4	1	0	43	12	31	48		
Bonnyrigg Eagles	17	10	6	0	1	56	16	40	42		
Leichhardt Tigers	17	9	4	0	4	35	24	11	35		
Bankstown City	15	8	3	0	4	32	21	11	30		
Adamstown R'bud	17	8	2	1	6	21	16	5	29		
Canterbury M'vill	17	6	5	0	6	25	31	-6	28		
Sutherland Sharks	17	9	0	0	8	28	29	-1	27		
Warringah Dolphins	16	7	2	0	7	33	25	8	25		
Rockdale Suns	17	6	2	2	7	31	31	0	24		
Mt Druitt Town	18	5	3	1	9	20	36	-16	22		
Macarthur Rams	17	3	5	1	8	27	37	-10	20		
Stanmore Hawks	17	5	2	1	9	12	31	-19	20		
Illawarra Lions	18	3	3	0	12	23	61	-38	15		
St George Saints	17	2	1	1	13	13	29	-16	9		
UNDER 18											
Blacktown City	18	14	0	1	3	64	11	53	43		
St George Saints	16	9	5	0	2	25	15	10	37		
Canterbury M'vill	17	8	4	1	4	32	24	8	33		
Adamstown R'bud	17	9	2	0	6	39	24	15	31		
Sutherland Sharks	17	9	1	1	6	36	28	8	30		
Mt Druitt Town	18	9	0	2	7	30	18	12	29		
Bonnyrigg Eagles	17	5	7	0	5	34	29	5	29		
Bankstown City	15	7	2	4	33	22	11	27			
Macarthur Rams	17	7	3	0	7	26	30	-4	27		
Rockdale Suns	17	7	1	0	9	28	35	-7	23		
Warringah Dolphins	16	5	3	0	8	19	30	-11	21		
Leichhardt Tigers	17	5	2	1	9	21	42	-21	20		
Stanmore Hawks	17	1	4	0	12	19	47	-28	11		
Illawarra Lions	17	1	2	0	14	17	68	-51	7		
ROUND 15											
FEDERATION DIVISION ONE FIRST GRADE											
Central Coast	P	Minotaurs	P								
Fairfield Bulls	0	Belmore Hercules	3								
Dulwich Hill	1	Auburn United	0								
Mt Pritchard	1	Hills United	2								
West Wanderers	0	Sydney Cosmos	1								
Ryde City	3	Liverpool City	0								
UNDER 21											
Central Coast	P	Minotaurs	P								
Fairfield Bulls	3	Belmore Hercules	0								
Dulwich Hill	2	Auburn United	0								
Mt Pritchard	3	Hills United	3								
West Wanderers	1	Sydney Cosmos	1								
Ryde City	8	Liverpool City	0								
UNDER 18											
Central Coast	P	Minotaurs	P								
Fairfield Bulls	1	Belmore Hercules	4								
Dulwich Hill	2	Auburn United	0								
Mt Pritchard	7	Hills United	1								
West Wanderers	0	Sydney Cosmos	2								
Ryde City	P	Liverpool City	P								

Sunshine warming to the task

Will it be third time lucky for the Georgies?

BY GREG BLAKE

It's now or never for the Sunshine Georgies class of '95, according to skipper Norm Dougherty.

The club has kept the current team virtually intact with a view to a title tilt this season and Dougherty believes only a grand final berth or better will be enough to satisfy the long-suffering Sunshine faithful.

"I don't believe that we have anyone to fear," says the veteran Dougherty.

"I honestly believe that we are the best team in it."

"We'd like to think we should be in the grand final at least, if not go on and win it."

The Georgies played in the NSL with some distinction between 1984 and 1990 and the former Victorian giant of the 1960s and 1970s is still arguably the best and most passionately supported club in the Victorian Premier League.

Since rejoining the Premier League in 1992, Sunshine has played in more finals games (5) than any club except Bulleen, yet the club is yet to even make a grand final.

According to Dougherty, this year the Georgies are expected to make an impact.

"To be honest, we probably haven't deserved to win anything (over the past two years)," he explained.

"Certainly the expectations by the players have not been too high in that time because there has been so much chopping and changing of coaches and players."

"Maybe this year there is an expectation by the club, because we've kept basically the same squad together (from last year) minus only Steve Mangos."

Recent history suggests the



Key Georgies target man Kon Pappas.

Georgies are better placed for a finals berth in '95 than the play-off seasons of 1993 or 1994.

Last year Sunshine had to produce a withering run to come from the lower half of the ladder and into the finals, going 7-2-1 over the last 10 games to make the cut.

In 1993 it was a similar story, the club climbing off the canvas to round out the regular season with a 10-4-2 burst to slip into the play-offs.

Both times Sunshine was forced through the treacherous elimination route and ran out of gas on both occasions, losing the '93 preliminary final to Fawkner and going down in the '94 minor semi-final to Port Melbourne.

"One chance is just not enough (in the finals)," says Dougherty.

"We've learned that the hard way."

"What's important is to get the double chance (top three) and we rate ourselves well."

"We've always had some great runs towards the end of the season, but we've gone into the finals on a wing and

prayer and hoping for no problems with injuries or suspensions."

Sunshine slipped into that vital third spot early this year, following a scrappy 1-0 win over Werribee City in a deferred fixture on Queens Birthday Monday.

The Georgies now face the easiest run home of the top teams, playing all nine of the teams outside the top five in the final 10 games of the home and away campaign.

The club should cement its play-off place, although Dougherty says that the seemingly easy run could prove deceptive.

"Don't read too much into (the draw)," he explained.

"We're at our best against the top teams and we tend to fall into the trap of dropping back to the level of some of the weaker teams."

"I'd prefer that we played more games against the top teams."

Sunshine's erratic recent history appeared to be running true to form early in 1995 when newly-appointed Englishman Ian Collard resigned from the coaching

job after a win-less opening three games.

His replacement, Willie Vassallo, has taken Sunshine to a 7-4-2 record since taking over. The Georgies' skipper says the appointment of the former Green Gully championship player had an immediate impact.

"The expectations on the

players were just too high with Collard," said Dougherty.

"There was a lot of tension at the club, no-one was sure of what they were doing and none of the players felt secure."

"His system was very 'English', which restricted some of the players and I think many players were scared to make a mistake."

"The tension disappeared when he left."

"Willie allows us to play, which is great for the skilled and flamboyant type of players we have at the club."

"He's also a nice guy who does the right thing by the players and they respond to him by wanting to do as best they can for him."

Dougherty is one of a clutch of veterans at the club who might be on last chance territory in a bid to return some glory to Chaplin Reserve.

Dougherty believes he mightn't ever get a better opportunity.

"I reckon that on paper and by the way we play that we are the best team in it," he declared.

"Now we've got to go out and prove it."

Clubs rally for Zebra revival

The push for a Melbourne-based Italian combined team in the NSL has moved a step closer with the news that the troubled Melbourne Zebras might be threatened by losing a place in the league.

The Zebras are possibly facing an amalgamate or perish situation in the wake of the recent ASF document announcing plans to possibly drop several established NSL clubs.

The Zebras have been rumoured to be under threat, along with Sydney Olympic, Heidelberg United and the Parramatta Eagles.

The seven-point ASF document released two weeks ago clearly stated that "a number of existing teams would be cut for the 1995/96 season."

Previously new ASF chairman David Hill had warned that older, weaker NSL clubs would not have a future in the remodelled competition.

The Zebras have struggled to establish themselves in the league since returning two seasons ago.

However, a Zebras reprieve could come in the form of a complete club facelift in association with an eight-strong Victorian Club consortium, deemed an unlikely option until now.

I understand that representatives of the eight clubs — the group known as United Italian Clubs Steering Committee — have asked for and been granted an extended by the ASF to submit an application for the NSL.

The consortium is made up of representatives from the Zebras, Bulleen, Box Hill, Fawkner, Werribee City, Essendon-Brunswick, Regent-Bulla and Thomastown clubs.

A document released by the group outlines the group's recommendations to the current committee of the Melbourne Zebras. The new club, wearing the existing black and white colours of the Zebras, would be known simply as Melbourne SC and would play out of Bulleen Park, Bulleen, once that ground is fully developed.

The Grollo construction group has been listed as major sponsor and Bulleen's Veneto Club has undertaken to underwrite the Zebras' present debts.

All members of the consortium will act as feeder clubs to the NSL team at junior, youth and senior level.

NEXT WEEK'S FIXTURES

STATE ONE

FRIDAY, 23RD JUNE ROUND 15

NORTHCOE City* v WESTGATE

SATURDAY, 24TH JUNE

Clarinda v BENTLEIGH GREENS

LALOR UNITED v FRANKSTONE PINES

SUNDAY, 25TH JUNE

WESTERN Suburbs v CROYDON CITY

THOMASTOWN Devils v BR'MEADOWS CITY

KNOX CITY v CAULFIELD CITY

OAKLEIGH v RICHMOND

STATE TWO

SATURDAY, 24TH JUNE

EAST RICHMOND v ESS. BRUN. ROYALS

CLIFTON HILLS* v CHELSEA

ALTONA CITY v SPR. WHITE EAGLES

NUNAWADING CITY v BELL PARK

WAVERLEY CITY v ALTONA EAST

MOORABBIN CITY v RINGWOOD CITY

MOOROOLBARK v REGENT BULLA

STATE THREE

SATURDAY, 24TH JUNE

EL DIA VALLEY v STH CAULFIELD

MELBOURNE CITY v STH WERRIBEE

WESTVALE v KEILOR EAGLES

FRANKSTON v SUNBURY UTD

STH DANDEMONG v PASCOE VALE

SEAFORD UTD v SANDRINGHAM CITY

FITZROY CITY v BANYULE

STATE FOUR

SATURDAY, 24TH JUNE

BRIGHTON v CRANBOURNE

WILLIAMSTOWN v CORIO

GEELONG v DOVETON

NTH COBURG UTD v YARRAVILLE

SITH SPRINGVALE v LANGWARRIN

SITH WANTIRNA v MONBULK

SUNSHINE HEIGHTS v STONNINGTON CITY

PROVISIONAL ONE

SATURDAY, 24TH JUNE

BRANDON PARK v BALLARAT

OLD SCOTCH v KNOX PARK

GEEL. RANGERS v DANDENONG

MELTON v NTH SUNSHINE

MITCHAM UTD v GLENROY

LALOR v HEIDELBERG CITY

SPRING. CONDORS v MORELAND CITY

PROVISIONAL TWO

SATURDAY, 24TH JUNE

BROADMEADOWS UTD v BERWICK CITY

NTH GLENROY v EAST NUN. EAGLES

MORNINGTON v BRAESIDE UTD

MONASH UNI. v BRUNSWICK CITY

HAMPTON PK UTD v MEADOW PARK

KEYSBOROUGH v HOPPERS CR'SING

SOUTH YARRA v LYNDALE UTD

PROVISIONAL THREE NORTH WEST

SUNDAY, 25TH JUNE ROUND 10

NTH RESERVOIR v WHITTLESEA UTD

DAREBIN UTD v WEST PRESTON

KEON PARK v SYDENHAM PARK

LATRODE UNI. v SUNSHINE PARK

MILL PARK v NORTHERN UTD

DIAMOND VALLEY v UPFIELD

PROVISIONAL THREE METRO

SATURDAY, 24TH JUNE ROUND 11

RINGWOOD ROVERS v PARKMORE

RIVERDALE v MELB. UNI. RANGERS

T'STOVE EAGLES v KEILOR UTD

ELWOOD CITY v ENDEAVOUR UTD

YALLOUR v CARRUM UTD

UNI. MELB. BLUES v ASHBURTON

PROV. THREE STH/EAST/CENTRAL

SUNDAY, 25TH JUNE ROUND 10

NTH CAULFIELD v IVANHOE UTD

CAM. GRAM. OLD BOYS v WAV. WANDERERS

EAST KEW v FLEM. FALCONS

WANTIRNA v RMIT

ENDEAVOUR HILLS v OAKLEIGH UTD

COLLINGWOOD CITY v THORNBURY



0055 38887

SUNDAY
MATCH RESULTS

SERVICE

◆ Premier League

◆ State League Div. 1

◆ Provisional

League Divisions 4&5

(Updated by 6.30pm each Sunday evening)

(PUBLIC HOLIDAYS: 0055 38878)

0055 38878

VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE

ALTONA 1
BOX HILL 1

BY JOHN RIGAS

Box Hill Inter sprang a double surprise when it fielded striking duo Peter Psarros from Port Melbourne and Tony Calle from Springvale for the clash against the Altona Magic, the inclusion sparked Inter into action as they were the better team on the day.

Psarros, on loan for the rest of the season and Calle being signed outright had immediate effect as both players struck the woodwork in opening half, Psarros' chance arrived in the 22nd minute after he received a pass from Adam Inglesi. Psarros played provider in the 43rd minute when his cross was met by the nippy Calle.

Altona had an impact on the scoreboard in the 10th minute when a Vasko Trpccevski free-kick was blocked by goalkeeper Kevin Baker. Magic's right-back Henry Velkovski latched onto the loose ball to score the easiest of goals.

Box Hill's persistence paid off in the 40th minute when Damien Gugulemi sent in a cross to Inglesi who powered his shot from 20 yards past goalkeeper Darren McGrath.

Inter looked more positive as they wanted the ball more and the combination of Psarros and Calle will cause many problems for the opposition. MAGIC: McGrath, Velkovski, Tassevski, Runje, Harris, T. Markovski, Micevski, Madarovski, Trpccevski, Georgievski (Atanasovski), Emosovski (Cvetkovski). INTER: Baker, Dal Ben, D. Tartaglia, Castro, Mazzini, REFEREE: Carlo Graser

Inglesi, A. Roodhouse, Gugulemi, Guscic, Calle, Psarros.
REFEREE: Cain Naumcevski
VOTES: 3 - Velkovski (AM); 2 - Harris (AM); 1 - Mazzini (BI).

SPRINGVALE 1
NORTH
GEELONG 1

BY SCOTT SPITS

Springvale City Vales failed to atone for last week's loss to North Geelong by drawing 1-1 with the Warriors at Ross Reserve on Sunday.

The Vales dominated the game yet were only able to convert one of several chances when Mark Lennon scored from a Darren McClenaghan cross in the 65th minute.

For North Geelong, Ante Deak scored their sole goal with a low shot to the right in the 20th minute, despite Springvale having numerous half chances in the opening minutes. The match improved in the latter stages of the second half as the play opened up with both teams having scoring chances as they tried to break the deadlock.

Vales coach Gus McLeod said he was disappointed but happy with the performance of his young players whilst Warriors coach Eddie Kovacev was content to escape with a draw. VALES: Dastey, Razzi, Nolan, V. Grella, Craig, Geri, P. Grella, McClenaghan, D. Grella, Nield (Lettieri) Lennon. WARRIORS: Vunderi, Fitzpatrick, (Pandzic), O'Sullivan, Medved, Cosic, Bot, McAulliffe, Dimovski, M. Trpkovic, J. Skoko, Deak, REFEREE: Carlo Graser

Premier League LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
PORT MELBOURNE	17	14	3	0	38	10	45
ALTONA MAGIC	17	10	3	4	26	19	33
SUNSHINE GEORGIES	17	8	5	4	25	17	29
BULLEEN LIONS	17	7	6	4	20	15	27
ALBION REDSOX	17	7	4	6	17	22	25
NTH GEELONG WARRIOR	17	6	5	6	20	16	23
ST ALBANS SAINTS	17	6	4	7	24	19	22
FAWKNER BLUES	17	6	4	7	15	20	22
GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS	17	5	6	6	19	19	21
PRESTON LIONS	17	4	6	7	18	22	18
SPRINGVALE CITY VALES	17	4	5	8	18	30	17
BOX HILL INTER	17	3	5	9	13	21	14
WERRIE BEES	17	3	5	9	19	30	14
DONCASTER ROVERS	17	2	7	8	11	23	13

TOP SCORERS

12 V. Trpccevski (Altona M)	D. White (Bulleen)
9 N. Tsaltas (Port Melb)	D. Gnjidic (Fawkner)
8 G. Savigos (Port Melb)	T. Calle (Box Hill)
7 J. Suric (Werribee)	S. Bevinovski (Preston)
7 D. Genovesi (Green Gully)	T. Rizopoulos (Port Melb)
T. Pondeljak (St Albans)	

VOTES: 3 - D. Grella (SCV); 2 - V. Grella (SCV); 1 - Deak (NGW).

ALBION 1
DONCASTER 1

BY ANGELO KLIDOMITIS

The Doncaster Rovers showed great courage after a disappointing first half to earn a 1-1 draw against the Albion Redsox in atrocious conditions at Selwyn Park on Sunday.

Albion captured the lead when recruit Carlo Villani, was pulled down in the penalty area by Julian Peel in the 31st minute.

Veteran Claude Lucchesi converted the spot-kick.

Doncaster equalised out of nothing, Archie McGeechey created an opening and blasted his shot past a helpless Robert Brian in the 53rd minute.

Both sides had opportunities to snatch a winner, Peter Haloulas had his 73rd minute strike on goal cleared off the line by Albion's Levent Osman.

Substitute Mesut Ismailoglu went close for Albion when his header smashed against the crossbar in the 75th minute.

The best chance for victory however fell to the

Redsox in the 78th minute. A prolonged goalmouth scramble saw Tamer Simsek, Martin Collins and Ismailoglu creating consecutive chances only to see their strikes on goal cleared off the line.

REDSOX: Brian, Gurpinar (Simsek), Ciantar, Osman, Lucchesi, Wilson, Sevin, Collins, Villani, Trani, Fehmi (Isamiloglu)

ROVERS: Clarke, Wallace, Hennessey, Healey, Peel, O'Donnell, McGeechey, Greenwood, Haikal (Morgan) Haloulas, (Berdonis), Ristevski.

REFEREE: Colin Ellis
VOTES: 3 - Healey (DR); 2 - Collins (AR); 1 - Greenwood (DR).

ST ALBANS 1
PORT
MELBOURNE 2

BY JOHN RIGAS

Port Melbourne displayed sheer class as they overcame a fighting St Albans in true winter conditions at Chruchill Reserve on Sunday.

The League leaders hit the front in the 45th minute when super Sava Rusmir provided a pinpoint cross to the waiting Nick Tsaltas at the far post who volleyed his

shot past Sean Keogh.

Rusmir was again in the thick of the action in the second half when he sent a wonderful cross to substitute Con Kotzagianidis who buried the ball into the back of the net to give the visitors a two-goal lead after 64 minutes.

St Albans scored a consolation goal in the 89th minute when left-back Slavko Rados put a through-ball to Ivan Jolic who tore his shot past Dean Anastasiadis in the Sharks' goal.

SAINTS: Keogh, Juric, Milanovic (Kirishian), M. Colina, Movric (Markovic), Pondejek, Rados, I. Colina, Jolic, Gagula, Kelic.

SHARKS: Anastasiadis, Argyriou, Dimitrellos, Kyriakopoulos, Fak, Savigos, Palamaras, Tsaltas (Pasakos), Papadopoulos, Rusmir, Tsorakos (Kotzagianidis).

REFEREE: Wayne Dade

WERRIE BEES 2
SUNSHINE 4

BY NINO NAPOLI

The Werribee Bees lost to the Sunshine Georgies for the second time in six days in terrible conditions at Galvin Park on Sunday.

Sunshine striker Craig Lewis was back to top form scoring either side of half time.

Alex Kiratzoglou had given the Georgies the lead in the 25th minute who profitted from a Jamie Melrose pass.

The Bees came out fighting in the second half and were rewarded with two goals in four minutes.

Leading scorer Jami Suric blasted a shot past Tony Lyras from 20 metres after 68 minutes.

Ian Calderwood scored with a typically thumping header four minutes later to spark hopes of a Bees revival.

The Georgies finally killed off the Bees with a last minute penalty from Agim Sherifovski.

BEES: Giatas, Napoli, Gilmour, Vallese, Carraro, Inserra, Smart, Stojcevski, Donnelly, Papamihail, Suric.

MAGIC: Lyras, Melrose, Kanesoulis, Cassar, Ferla, Daglaras, Lewis, Dougherty, Kiratzoglou, Stenson, Sherifovski.

REFEREE: N/A
VOTES: 3 - Lewis (SG); 2 - Kiratzoglou (SG); 1 - Smart (WB).

PRESTON LIONS 0
BULLEEN LIONS 2

(Di Iorio 28m Lutgens 33m)
just put me straight into play," Banini explained.

Green Gully were the better side throughout the match and gained an early lead through dynamo striker Joe Tricarico who darted his header past Eric Janssen.

Tricarico was at his brilliant best, making dashing runs and providing a headache for the Blues defence, even though his marker, the fresh Ricky Ferla did an admirable job in containing him.

Fawkner coach Tony Vrzina acknowledged his team's poor showing but thinks the absence of four key players was the major factor.

CAVALIERS: Vella, Spiteri, Crodden, Brown, Campbell, Chetcuti, Markovski, Davis, Tricarico, Neceski, Grillo.

BLUES: Janssen, Crivari, Goulis, Ferla, Schipano, Banini, Bordignon, Recchia (Gasparini), Minichiello, Retre, Gnjidic.

REFEREE: Steve Kraljevski
VOTES: 3 - Tricarico (GGC); 2 - Chetcuti (GGC); 1 - Banini (FB).

PRESTON LIONS 0
BULLEEN LIONS 2

(Di Iorio 28m Lutgens 33m)

*Details of this match were unavailable as we went to press.

THIS WEEKS VICTORIAN PREMIER LEAGUE GAMES

SUNDAY

Albion Redsox v Altona Magic
Sunshine Georgies v Springvale City Reds

Box Hill Inter v Werribee Bees
Fawkner Blues v Doncaster Rovers

Preston Lions v North Geelong Warriors

Port Melbourne Sharks v Green Gully Cavaliers

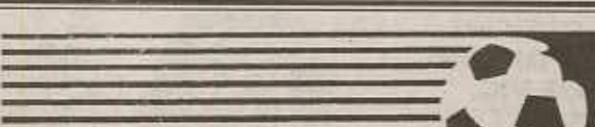
Bulleen Lions v St Albans Saints

PREMIER LEAGUE ROUND 17 RESULTS

Altona Magic 1 (Velkovski) - Box Hill Inter 1 (Inglesi)
St Albans Saints 1 (Jolic) - Port Melbourne Sharks 2 (Tsaltas, Kotzagianidis)
Albion Redsox 1 (Lucchesi) - Doncaster Rovers 1 (McGeachey)
Green Gully Cavaliers 1 (Tricarico) - Fawkner Blues 1 (Banini)
Preston Lions 0 - Bulleen Lions 2 - (Di Iorio, Lutgens)
Springvale City Vales 1 (Lennon) - North Geelong Warriors 1 (Deak)
Werribee Bees 2 (Suric, Calderwood) - Sunshine Georgies 4 (Kiratzoglou, Lewis 2, Sherifovski)

TOP VOTES ABSW PASCOE VALE SPORTS SCENE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

- 19 S. Rusmir (Port Melb)
- 15 G. Stenson (Sunshine)
- 14 Z. Markovski (Green Gully)
- 13 C. Emsovski (Altona)
- 12 T. Pondeljak (St. Albans)
- 12 R. Brian (Albion)
- V. Trpccevski (Altona)
- A. Deak (North Geelong)
- N. Papadopoulos (Port Melbourne)
- P. Harris (Altona)
- J. Androulidakis (Werribee)
- A. Sherifovski (Sunshine)
- G. Lenetis (Bulleen)



Vic Health supports the Victorian Soccer Federation





VICTORIAN LADIES

**PREMIER LEAGUE RESERVES**

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Gr. Gully Civil.	17	13	2	2	41	19	41
Preston Lions	16	10	0	6	45	21	30
St Alb. Saints	17	8	6	3	32	22	36
Fawkner Blues	17	9	3	5	38	31	30
Altona Magic	17	9	2	6	30	26	25
Bulleen Lions	15	8	3	4	32	22	27
Sun. Georgies	17	8	3	6	34	25	27
Pt Melb. Sharks	16	7	3	6	23	24	24
Spr. City Vales	17	6	5	6	29	26	23
Werribee Bees	17	6	4	7	24	24	22
Don'ter Rovers	17	4	6	7	28	35	18
Box Hill Inter	17	4	2	11	25	41	14
Nt Geel. Warrior	17	2	2	13	12	44	8
Albion Redsox	17	1	3	13	22	55	6

STATE ONE FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Bent. Greens	14	9	3	2	36	18	30
Thomas. Devils	14	8	4	2	29	22	28
Lalor United	14	8	3	3	24	19	27
Clarinda	14	6	5	3	25	17	23
Richmond	14	7	2	5	29	28	23
West Suburbs	14	6	4	4	19	17	19
Northcote City	14	5	5	4	20	18	17
Croydon City	14	5	5	4	24	23	17
Westgate	14	4	5	5	21	21	17
Frank. Pines	14	3	4	7	18	21	13
Caulfield City	14	3	4	7	17	26	13
Oakleigh	14	4	1	9	16	26	13
Broadmeadows	13	2	4	7	19	22	10
Knox City	13	1	3	9	12	31	6

STATE ONE RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Oakleigh	14	8	4	2	33	18	28
Richmond	14	8	3	3	47	25	27
Th'town Devils	14	8	2	4	26	19	26
Bent. Greens	12	6	4	2	23	14	22
Frank. Pines	14	5	5	4	26	24	20
Northcote City	14	7	2	5	29	31	20
Knox City	13	5	4	4	28	19	19
Broadmeadows	13	5	3	5	18	27	18
Caulfield City	14	4	5	5	29	26	17
Lalor Utd	12	5	2	5	19	16	17
Clarinda	13	3	3	7	22	25	12
Westgate	14	4	0	10	29	43	12
West. Suburbs	13	4	2	7	24	31	11
Croydon City	14	2	1	11	12	47	4

STATE TWO FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sp. White Eagles	14	10	3	1	32	12	33
Moorabbin City	14	9	4	1	28	8	31
Waverley City	14	8	4	2	29	10	28
Ess. Brun. Royals	14	9	4	1	38	20	28
Regent Bulla	14	5	6	3	25	16	21
Bell Park	14	6	3	5	17	20	21
Altona East	14	4	4	6	17	14	16
East Richmond	13	4	4	5	10	18	16
Nunawading City	14	3	6	5	11	21	15
Chelsea	14	4	2	8	17	25	14
Mooroolbark	14	3	5	6	14	28	14
Ringwood City	14	3	2	9	14	26	11
Altona City	14	2	5	7	13	28	11
Clifton Hill	13	1	0	12	8	27	3

STATE TWO RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Moorabbin City	14	11	2	1	44	14	35
Waverley City	14	10	1	3	45	14	31
Altona City	14	10	1	3	42	23	31
Regent Bulla	14	9	2	3	47	18	29
Sp. White Eagles	13	8	2	3	23	12	26
Ess. Brun. Royals	13	7	4	2	28	10	22
Mooroolbark	14	5	1	8	27	34	16
Altona East	14	4	2	8	13	34	14

STATE THREE FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
East Richmond	14	3	4	7	21	37	13
Bell Park	14	4	1	9	14	42	13
Clifton Hill	13	3	3	7	11	19	12
Ringwood City	14	4	0	10	26	36	12
Nunawading City	13	3	1	9	12	30	10
Chelsea	12	1	2	9	11	41	5

STATE THREE RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Westvale	14	11	2	1	44	13	35
Sth Dandenong	14	9	3	2	40	13	30
Sth Werribee	14	8	3	3	25	19	27
Melb. City	13	7	2	4	23	18	23
Keilor Eagles	14	5	7	2	15	10	22
Elt Dia Valley	14	6	4	4	22	21	22
Sth Caulfield	13	6	2	5	14	16	20
Frankston	14	6	1	7	25	26	19
Pascoe Vale	14	5	2	7	25	26	17
Banyule	14	5	1	8	27	33	16
Fitzroy City	14	4	2	8	11	23	14
Seaford Utd	14	4	2	8	22	37	14
Sunbury Utd	14	1	4	9	12	32	7
Sth Dandenong	14	0	5	9	11	29	2

STATE FOUR RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT

<tbl_r cells="8" ix

TRINCA RESIGNS

Aldo Trinca has decided to call it a day as coach of P.S.F. Division One club Bayswater City, after just two months and only two wins into the season.

They were whipped 6-0 the previous week, by current leaders Spearwood Dalmatinac, but Trinca is adamant that the result had nothing to do with his decision. "I actually resigned 5 weeks ago" said Trinca. "But I stayed on expecting certain personal matters between myself and the Bayswater committee would be resolved. They never were."

The former Perth Azzurri and State midfielder of the 70's, took over the reigns from Eric Marrochi at the end of last season, his previous coaching positions were at a youth level with Perth Italia and Bayswater.

City have never managed to fully recover from a mass exodus of experienced players that departed prior to the beginning of the year. Subsequently, they are languishing near the base of the standings.

City President Vince Versacci has still to find a replacement, although rumours are rife regarding the possible return of their former successful coach David Harrison. Current U/23 coach Cecil Lyness will act as caretaker until the position is filled.

SORRENTO ISSUE WARNING

Sorrento must be thinking there really is a Santa Claus, especially after last weekend's topsy-turvy results in the PSF First Division where the three leading front runners all suffered defeats.

A midweek draw with Perth and a 3-0 triumph of defending league champions Stirling Macedonia on Saturday, elevated the gulls to the top of the standings and have now emerged as serious contenders for the title.

Stopper Gary Lee and tall striker Simon Bowman were the

pick of Sorrento's best players, Bowman especially with his constant harassment of the Stirling rearguard which featured stand-in keeper Rob Pucovski, who was deputising for the injured Gary Whyatt.

Sorrento too hard their goalie problems with reserve keeper Mike Harkness coming in for Richard Wilson who arrived late for the game.

And it was Bowman who opened his side's account in the 17th minute, with a lethal lob that was supplied to him by Neil Blunt.

Blunt then increased Sorrento's lead in the 35th minute after a kick from Harkness fell to Bowman, who wasted no time in lining up Blunt to drive home a well taken volley.

Sorrento's third came in the 68th minute which was the best move of the match.

Stylish midfielder Joe Sweeney pushed a perfect ball into the run of Blunt who then swept a hard and low centre to the danger-zone where ex-Stirling player Joe Kelly was on hand to gratefully poke the ball past Pucovski.

FALCONS REBOUND

State midfielder Alan McTurk put Inglewood Falcons back on track by scoring both goals in a 2-1 win against former leaders Spearwood Dalmatinac at the Kiev Sports Ground.

It was just the result they were after, since suffering a 4-0 loss to Perth the previous week.

Former Socceroo Robbie Zabica played out of his skin, especially in the first half.

After Gary Murray and Paul Wormley blew easy chances in the 27th and 28th minutes, Inglewood needed something special to breakthrough, and it came in the 58th minute by way of midfield maestro Jason Ainsley who set the move in motion by sending Martin Guilfoyle on a right flank run.

The veteran striker cleverly cut in towards

goal, enticed Zabica off his line before squaring the ball into the path of McTurk who rippled the net with a glorious volley.

Inglewood were awarded a penalty in the 66th minute after Zabica brought down John Pountain, but Paul Strudwick found the task of beating Zabica too intimidating, and fired his spot-kick well wide of the target.

But the Falcons were given a second penalty 10 minutes later which McTurk converted with ease despite Zabica getting a touch to it.

The visitors did manage to pull a goal back two minutes later through Lee Warren, but it was Inglewood who had the last goalstrike of the match, when Zabica denied McTurk a hat-trick by smartly pushing his acutely angled 82nd minute strike around the post.

Floreat down Bayswater

Floreat Athena collected three valuable points at the expense of a coachless Baywater City, by defeating them 3-1 at Bayswater Oval.

Athena took the lead through a 15th minute strike by Dean Nicolaou, but City hit back with a Dom Giorgi goal in the 28th.

Floreat eventually gained a grip on the game after the break. Slobodan Despotovski got the first of a double in the 49th minute, thanks to a gift ball from City keeper Perth Kolikow.

His second came midway through the half with a delicate but deadly chip from well outside the box.

In the Italian derby, Perth jumped into third position

after downing Swan IC 2-1 at the Swan Italian club ground.

Scott Miller and Willie Herd netted for Perth, while Swan could only reply through their player-coach Mickey Cairns.

In the Sunday fixture, lowly Stirling Panthers moved to just two points away from Bayswater City after defeating league door-mats Fremantle City 1-0. City have now lost all eight league matches.

New signing Alan MacKenzie netted the all important goal, and has now scored in each of his opening three games.

The winning goal came from a 79th minute Keegan Ashley corner which he met with a powerful and accurate header.

PSF DIVISION 1

	8	4	3	1	24	11	15
Sorrento	8	4	2	2	25	12	14
Spearwood	7	4	2	1	14	8	14
Perth	7	4	1	2	22	12	13
Stirling	7	4	1	2	20	11	13
Swan	7	4	1	2	16	19	10
Inglewood	6	4	1	1	14	17	13
Floreat	8	3	1	4	16	19	10
Bayswater	5	2	2	4	11	27	8
Panthers	8	1	3	4	13	18	6
Fremantle	8	0	0	5	29	0	0

ZEBRAS SET TO MERGE

BY CON STAVROS

NSL relegation candidates, the Melbourne Zebras, are set to merge with Victorian Premier League team Bulleen.

"This is something I have been working on for years and we're pretty close to working something out in the next few weeks," said Zebras president Peter Ballasone.

"This is clearly the way to go, if we want to be successful in the long term."

The Melbourne Zebras have held talks with senior Bulleen Officials over the past month to organise the super-team that will aim to draw major support from Melbourne's large Italian community.

"It's not just an Italian team, but a team that will also hopefully appeal to the many soccer fans in the Eastern suburbs," says Ballasone.

The name Melbourne Zebras is likely to remain, with the club to be based at a new complex next to Bulleen's existing facility that is to be built next year.

"We seem to have the support of everybody for the concept," explains Ballasone. "It would mean that Bulleen would give away the Premier League, and that hopefully down the track other Victorian teams like the Werribee's and Fawkner's can work with us in



a feeder system."

The ASF is aware of the proposal according to Ballasone, although the concept is not tied to a fight for survival in the league.

"Even if we get kicked out, we'd do this merger and try and get back in," says Ballasone.



"We just don't know what is happening at the moment." There are suggestions that the league wants just 12 teams and that we may be relegated.

"They (the league) are going to have a fight on their hands if they do that."

"Everything is on hold at the moment because we don't know our status. We can't deal with players or sponsors, because we are not sure where we will be."

The Zebras have been tipped by some to be in the relegation firing line, along with Heidelberg, to allow the inclusion of Canberra and a neat dozen teams that will fit in with the new three round process.

"Nobody wants any drastic changes and I think they (the ASF) are going a bit overboard at the moment," says Ballasone.

"I can't understand this move to get a team from New Zealand involved."

"Sure they can knock us on our crowd figures, but we've got an excellent home ground and financially we are one of the best teams in the country."

"Mr Hill (ASF Chairman), said he wants to work with the clubs, but now it looks like he wants to start chopping. If they want to do that they should set some guidelines and give every team 12 months to work to those rules. If he wants things done, he should say what he wants and give us a chance."

FOREIGN LEGION BACK IN TOWN

BY ROY HAY

Caught two of Australia's growing band of overseas players crouched over the table-soccer machine at Geelong's Stead Park last Thursday night. Taking the game almost as seriously as the outdoor version, and watched by a group of enthusiastic juniors, were Blackburn Rovers' keeper Frank Talia and Hong Kong-based Kris Trajanovski, formerly with Sydney Olympic.

Talia has had a horror season with operations on both elbows keeping him out of contention for a senior spot virtually all season. "Last year I had enough appearances in the squad to qualify for a medal, but this year when we won the Premier Division I did not," he said. He is now back to full health and will return to Blacktown in about four weeks for pre-season. I asked him was he looking forward to that and he grimaced. How do you get on with Tim Flowers and Kenny Dalglish was my next question. "Flowers is great, we train with him every day and he has been a great help. He has had a good league season, but he struggled a bit in the recent tournament for England. There is a big step from Premier soccer to international standard." He then did an impression, not very convincing, of a dour Scot, but admitted that Dalglish was "All right."

Next season Blackburn will be in the European Cup in the Champions League thanks to the revised seeding system which recognises the results of English teams in European competition. Talia has high hopes of being part of that.

Kris Trajanovski is considering a number of offers, both locally and in Hong Kong, where Happy Valley is keen to sign him. Sydney Olympic also wants him back, but at the moment, Trajanovski is leaning towards returning to Hong Kong. Trajanovski has played against some of the world's top players as a guest for the Indonesian national when it played Italian Serie A giants Sampdoria last year. He

finished up in direct opposition to David Platt and swapped shirts with the England captain at the end of the game. "I need a rest at the moment, but I will make up my mind on what I will do in a few weeks."

Trajanovski and Talia played together at junior level for the Western Region and for Victoria before going to the Australian Institute of Sport with a current member of the Geelong team, Jason Koliba.

Trajanovski went on to represent the Young Socceroos in the World Youth Cup in Portugal, while Talia went overseas, eventually finishing at Blackburn. Both will make a big impact in Australian soccer before long.

Lyons to make Cosmos roar

Newly-formed national soccer league (NSL) team Canberra Cosmos announced it had signed former English premier league player Michael Lyons as coach for three years.

Lyons, a former player with Everton and Sheffield Wednesday, was hailed by Cosmos chairman Ron Watkins as one of the best coaches that had come to Australia in recent years.

"He is probably one of the highest-qualified coaches that has come into Australia for quite a few years," Watkins said.

Lyons has been the Brunei national coach since 1993 and will start his new job in two months, finalising selections for the new season in October.

The 43-year-old played first division for Everton from 1969 to 1982, then for Sheffield Wednesday from 1982 to 1986. He was on the coaching staff of Sheffield Wednesday from 1985 to 1986 and Everton from 1988 to 1992.

QUEENSLAND XXXX SOCCER LEAGUE

DIVISION XXXX LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brisbane City	13	11	1	1	37	14	34
Rochdale Rovers	13	10	2	1	33	8	32
Taringa Rovers	13	8	1	4	23	16	25
Brisbane Lions	13	8	1	4	23	16	25
North Star	13	7	2	4	26	26	23
Wynnum District	13	7	0	6	22	19	21
Coalstars	13	5	2	6	18	18	17
Eastern Suburbs	13	3	2	8	13	30	11
Grange Thistle	13	3	1	9	18	30	10
Pine Rivers United	13	1	6	6	13	22	9
Willowburn	13	2	2	9	18	39	8
North Brisbane	13	1	3	9	12	24	6

ROUND 13 SCORES

Taringa Rovers	0	Brisbane Lions	3
Pine Rivers United	2	Eastern Suburbs	2
Grange Thistle	0	Rochdale Rovers	4
Wynnum District	4	North Brisbane	0
Coalstars	0	Brisbane City	2
Willowburn	3	North Star	2

DIVISION TWO

Beenleigh	13	10	2	1	45	17	32
Nerang	12	8	1	3	24	13	25
Ipswich St Helens	13	7	2	4	31	21	23
Rocklea United	12	7	1	4	20	11	22
Logan City Kings	12	7	1	4	27	21	22
Acacia Ridge	13	6	3	4	23	21	21
St Albans	13	6	0	7	24	21	18
Olympic United	12	5	2	5	12	17	17
Mount Gravatt	13	4	2	7	18	23	14
Inala City United	13	3	2	8	17	33	11
Souths United	13	3	1	9	15	31	10
Uni of Qld	13	1	1	11	12	39	4

DIVISION THREE

Capalaba	13	11	2	0	37	11	35
Albany Creek	13	9	1	3	33	11	28
Slacks Creek	13	7	3	3	25	11	24
The Gap	13	7	2	4	26	15	23
Mitchelton	12	6	1	5	20	18	19
Goodna & Districts	13	6	1	6	20	21	19
Annerley Rec	13	6	1	6	19	22	19
Redlands United	13	5	2	6	16	21	17
Newmarket	13	4	3	6	18	21	15
Clairvaux	13	3	1	9	14	31	10
Latrobe Ath	13	1	4	8	18	32	7
North Pine United	12	1	1	10	5	37	4

DIVISION FOUR

Western Suburbs	13	10	2	1	28	10	32
Southside Eagles	13	9	1	3	26	9	28
Darra United	12	9	0	3	30	8	27
Moggil United	13	8	2	3	36	14	26
Redcliffe City	13	8	1	4	33	20	25
Samford	13	6	1	6	25	27	19
Brothers United	13	4	4	5	25	24	16
South Star	13	4	3	6	18	26	15
Loganholt	13	3	2	8	18	27	11
Ipswich City	12	3	2	7	14	29	11
Pine Hills	13	0	5	8	14	32	5
Oxley United	13	1	1	11	10	51	4

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

FIRST DIVISION

Bayswater City	1	Foreat Athena	3
Inglewood Falcons	2	Spearwood Dalmatian	1
Swan IC	1	Perth	2
Stirling Lions	0	Sorrento	3

SECOND DIVISION

Kingsway Olympic	2	Southside United	0
Western Knights	10	Ashfield	2
Dianella WE	4	Melville Corinthians	0
Stirling Vardar	3	Morley Windmills	1
Rockingham City	1	Bassendean Caledonians	1
Balcatta	1	Cockburn United	3

THIRD DIVISION

Bunbury United	6	Armadale Park	1
Joondalup City	2	Balg	1
Queens Park	1	Stirling V. Reds	1
University	2	Wanneroo British	0
North Lake Espanol	1	Perth City	4
Geraldton La Fiamma	0	Western Yugal	2

NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES

STATE FIRST GRADE

Weston Workers Bears	2	Lake Macquarie Roosters	0
Hamilton Warriors	1	Broadmeadow Magic	2
West Wallsend Bluebells	4	Wallsend Red Devils	1
Edgeworth Eagles	1	Highfields	0
Cessnock Hornets	1	Maitland Magpies	0

TOOHEYS SECOND DIVISION — 1ST GRADE

Weston Workers Bears	0	Lake Macquarie Roosters	0
Hamilton Warriors	1	Broadmeadow Magic	1
West Wallsend Bluebells	2	Wallsend Red Devils	1
Edgeworth Eagles	1	Highfields	3
Cessnock Hornets	1	Maitland Magpies	0

UNDER 18'S

Weston Workers Bears	0	Lake Macquarie Roosters	0
Hamilton Warriors	0	Broadmeadow Magic	2
West Wallsend Bluebells	2	Wallsend Red Devils	1
Edgeworth Eagles	1	Highfields	0
Cessnock Hornets	3	Maitland Magpies	3

NBN SOCCER LEAGUE

Highfields 22, Weston Workers Bears 22, Edgeworth Eagles 21, West Wallsend Bluebells 16, Broadmeadow Magic 13, Hamilton Warriors 12, Wallsend Red Devils 11, Lake Macquarie Roosters 10, Cessnock Hornets 10.

The World's 14 Best Players

(According to the football Bible World Soccer)

GABRIEL BATISTUTA

Born February 1, 1969, in Reconquista, Argentina
Previous clubs Newell's Old Boys, River Plate,
Boca Juniors

GABRIEL BATISTUTA was not, on his arrival in Italy in the summer of 1991, greeted with the sort of delirious enthusiasm often generated for new, foreign superstars. He had been top scorer with six goals in Argentina's recent South American Championship success. But Batistuta struggled to adapt to the Italian game, continually allowing himself to be manoeuvred up the tactical blind alleys in which Italian defenders specialise. Batistuta scored on his home League debut for Fiorentina against Genoa but the team, generally, began the season badly. The turning point did not come until late November after Batistuta, himself increasingly frustrated, complained in an interview with Italy's biggest-selling sports newspaper that his team-mates were not working as hard as they should to get him the ball in scoring positions.

Almost immediately, Batistuta scored a goal in a 3-1 win over Cremonese. The aggression, such a vital part of Batistuta's game, was beginning to re-assert itself. Finally, he delighted everyone around the club when, in mid-January, he scored Fiorentina's first in a 2-0 win over hated rivals Juventus.

Batistuta says: "It was hard for me at the beginning. It's not like playing in Argentina here, very few teams field two committed forwards, let alone three, as I was used to when I played for Boca Juniors."

Batistuta scored a commendable 13 goals in 27 games in his first season with Fiorentina. In his second season he did even better from a personal point of view, with 16 goals in 32 games, but the club was relegated. The fault lay not, obviously, with Batistuta, but with a boardroom power struggle and the extraordinary decision in mid-season to dismiss coach Radice when Fiorentina were sixth in the League. Morale sank and Fiorentina crashed down the League.

Not surprisingly, Batistuta found himself in demand. He could easily have insisted on leaving for another club to stay in Serie A. But he had built a strong rapport with the fans in Florence and he and his wife liked the city. Batistuta decided to stay, and scored 16 goals in 26 games as Fiorentina shot straight back into Serie A.

This season he has maintained his success rate, breaking a 32-year-old record by scoring in each of Fiorentina's opening 11 Serie A games, and has become the first Argentinian to top the League scoring charts (25 goals) since Diego Maradona in 1987-88.

NUMBER
10

OF
FOURTEEN

NOT NECESSARILY IN ORDER



FIORENTINA & ARGENTINA

The World's 14 Best Players

(According to the football Bible *World Soccer*)

Michael Laudrup

Born June 15, 1964, in Copenhagen, Denmark

Previous clubs KB Copenhagen, Brondby, Juventus, Barcelona

If ANYONE had any doubts about Michael Laudrup's continuing claims to be considered one of the world's great players, they need only look at Real Madrid's revival this season.

Every few years, Laudrup, possibly Denmark's finest product, has needed a new challenge to reignite the talent which once made him Europe's most-coveted teenager.

Born in 1964, Laudrup — elder brother of Brian — joined the youth section of the Brondby club at 14 before moving temporarily to KB Copenhagen. he made his League debut for KB at 17 against Aarhus, then returned to Brondby, under the tutelage of his father Finn, a former Danish international who had no doubt about the potential of his son. Laudrup's natural talent was so evident that word spread beyond Denmark, even beyond Scandinavia. All of Europe's top clubs came to watch. In the end it came down to a choice between Juventus and Liverpool.

In the end he opted for Juventus — who lent Laudrup to Lazio initially before recalling him in time to help them win the 1985 World Club Cup. A year later Laudrup was starring on a world stage again — at the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico, where he contributed perhaps the finest performance of his career in the Danes' 6-1 thrashing of Uruguay. Denmark reached the second round comfortably but then crashed 5-1 against Spain, for whom Emilio Butragueno scored four times and stole Laudrup's attacking glory.

Back in Europe, Laudrup grew increasingly discontented with Italian football and moved on to Barcelona, with whom he won the European Champions and Cup-winners cups as well as four Spanish League titles under Johan Cruyff. Eventually, Laudrup and Cruyff fell out. The last straw for Laudrup was being omitted from Barcelona's team for the 1994 Champions Cup Final. Within weeks he had signed a contract with Barcas' most deadly rivals, Real Madrid.

Cruyff was not the only coach with whom Laudrup fell out. His well-publicised disagreements with Denmark boss Richard Moller Nielsen meant Laudrup was absent from the national team who surprised international football by winning the 1992 European Championship. The two men made their peace afterwards but then, ironically, Denmark failed to qualify for the 1994 World Cup finals. At least there's still Euro '96.



NUMBER
11
OF
FOURTEEN

NOT NECESSARILY IN ORDER

REAL MADRID & DENMARK

WOMEN'S WORLD CUP '95

JAPAN NO MATCH FOR USA

Before a crowd of 3756 including FIFA chief Joao Havelange last Tuesday, USA put away four spectacular goals to defeat Japan in their quarter-final played in Gavle. The defending World Champions however, although victory was never in doubt, did not produce their usual slick passing game, the second half especially becoming quite stale. The Americans were again without the services of star striker Michelle Akers, still recovering from head and leg injuries from the opening match, although this time she was at least listed as a substitute.

FINAL

In Stockholm: Norway beat Germany 2-0 (halftime 2-0).
Scorers: Hege Riise (37th minute), Marianne Pettersen (40th)
Attendance: 17,158.

QUARTER-FINALS

At Gavle: United States 4 Japan 0 (halftime 3-0)
Scorers - Kristy Lilly (8th minute, 43rd), Tiffeny Milbrett (45th), Tisha Venturini (80th)
Attendance: 3,756
At Karlstad: Norway 3 Denmark 1 (1-0)
Scorers: Norway - Gro Espeseth (21st), Linda Medalen (62nd), Hege Riise (83rd)
Denmark - Gitte Krogh (84th)
Attendance: 4,655
In Västerås: Germany 3 England 0 (1-0)
Scorers - Martina Voss (40), Maren Meinert (55), Heidi Mohr (82)
Attendance 2,317
In Helsingborg: China 1 Sweden 1 (after extra time)
China won 5-4 on penalties (half time 1-0, full time 1-1).
Scorers: China - Sun Qingmei (30)
Sweden - Ulrike Kalte (90)
Attendance 7,937

SEMI-FINAL

In Västerås: Norway bt United States 1-0 (halftime 1-0)
Scorer - Ann Kristin Aarones (11th minute)
Attendance 2,893
In Helsingborg: Germany bt China 1-0 (0-0)
Scorer: Bettina Wiegmann (79th)
Attendance: 3,629
Germany plays Norway in the final.

THIRD PLACE PLAY-OFF

US bt China 2-0 (halftime 1-0)
Scorers: Tisha Venturini (24th minute), Mia Hamm (56th). Attendance: 4,335.

NORWAY CHAMPIONS

BY
JANENE MAR

Norway dethrone champions

In the semi-final played last Thursday in Västerås, Norway avenged their 1991 World Cup final loss to USA holding out to take a narrow 1-0 victory over the Americans despite losing captain Heidi Store midway through the second half after receiving two yellow cards.

In 14 previous meetings between the two nations, Norway approached this match with a 9-5 advantage, and have impressed all with their four win record to date in Sweden. A very tall team, the Norwegians looked strong and sure on the ball with great understanding between teammates. The Americans in contrast appeared somewhat mechanical and less fluent.

Star striker Michelle Akers was finally back in action for the Americans in this crunch match with the aid of a knee bandage. Akers however rarely looked dangerous and was well kept in check by the Norwegian defence.

After just 11 minutes, Norway had USA on the back foot with a powerful goal. The tallest player at 182cm, goal ace Ann Kristin Aarones

scored her seventh goal of the championship, rising well above the pack to easily head a corner-kick into the net from close range.

Norway continued to threaten the American goal throughout the half. Hege Riise had the best of their chances, cleverly juggling the ball to beat her opponent in easy reach of goal, only to finish with a weak shot straight to keeper Brianne Scurry.

With the sending off of Store, the Americans came more into the match but still failed to find the equaliser past a determined defence.

USA were luckless, the ball hitting the woodwork three times in the last few minutes.

The whistle finally blew with Norway's single goal booking them another shot at the world crown.

The other semi-final between China and European Champions Germany was also a tight affair with Germany's winning goal coming at the end of the match played in Helsingborg.

China looked exhausted following their extra-time quarter final match against Sweden and found it tough against the powerful Germans.

Midfielder Silvia Neid notched up her 100th appearance for Germany in this match.

Although the better team, Germany had to wait until 11 minutes from time for Bettina Wiegmann to break through and score for a spot in the final.



Heidi Store: Norway's captain missed the final through suspension.

NORWAY SET UP USA RE-MATCH

Norway continued their 100% win record for the Championship, beating neighbours Denmark 3-1 in the quarter-final match played in Karlstad.

A Gro Espeseth goal mid-way through the first half took Norway into the break with a narrow lead.

It was not until the 62nd minute that Norway were able to increase their advantage through a Linda Medalen strike. Forward Hege Riise then added a third after 83 minutes.

In Helsingborg in the other quarter-final,

host Sweden's dream of taking the crown were cruelly shattered, losing out 5-4 in a penalty shoot-out after equalising in the 90th minute to force extra-time.

China had taken the lead after 30 minutes through Sun Qingmei.

In a close contest, Ulrike Kalte kept Sweden in the game with her late strike.

No 'golden goals' however were forthcoming in the half hour of extra-time, the match remaining as tight even throughout the shoot-out.

USA TAKE BRONZE OVER CHINA

Veteran midfielder Mia Hamm set up the first goal with a corner and scored in the second half after a fine solo run as the United States shut out China 2-0 to win the bronze-medal game played in Gavle last Saturday.

Goalkeeper Brianne Scurry also made a key contribution to the 1991 world champions, making a series of sparkling saves.

In their opening round-robin match here 11 days ago, the Chinese rallied from deficits of 2-0 and 3-1 with two late second-half goals to earn a well-deserved 3-3 tie.

This time, with only prestige at stake, the Americans held off the Chinese.

Tisha Venturini put the Americans one up in the 24th minute with a header for her third goal in the championship, tying her for the team lead with Kristine Lilly and Tiffeny Milbrett.

Goalie Honglian Zhong went up for Hamm's corner from the right, but the ball slipped behind her for an easy goal by Venturini.

Hamm, scoreless after scoring one against China in the opener but set up several en route to a 1-0 semi-final loss on Thursday to Norway, made it 2-0 in the 55th minute.

It was one of the greatest individual performances by an American player during the championship. Hamm picked up a loose ball deep in midfield, pumped it forward once and then outran a Chinese defender after a long dash before shooting the ball low past the goalie from inside the box.

Casagrande to decide next move

Aussie striker Lisa Casagrande (right) is back with her schoolmates in her home town of Lismore on the far north coast of NNSW, full of memories of Australia's exploits against the best in Sweden at the World Cup.

Having just celebrated her 17th birthday whilst on tour, Casagrande played in each of Australia's three matches and did not disappoint.

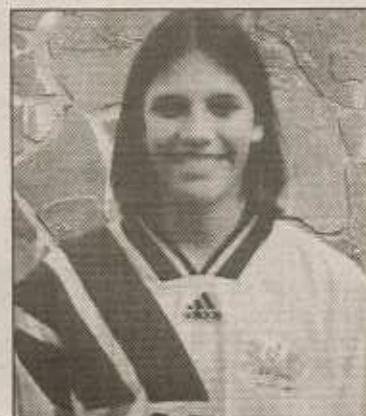
Predictably she names her goal against USA as the best moment in Sweden. The well-struck header put Australia into the lead against the defending World Champions. "Actually I haven't seen the goal yet — we don't get SBS," she said. "It was a great feeling taking the lead against them. It's a goal that will always stick in my memory." Casagrande's parents were in the audience to witness the event first hand.

The Americans were also impressed,

the USA Assistant Coach later approaching Casagrande with the offer of a college scholarship. The Year 11 student is at present unsure of her next move, the college to provide her with further details next month. Casagrande, who trained full-time for three months with the boys at the AIS, will be discussing the options with National Coach Tom Sermanni.

'Casa' sums up Australia's performance at their first World Cup as a good performance which was spoilt by some bad refereeing decisions and hard luck. "It was disappointing losing Sonia Gegenhuber after 20 minutes. We had a good chance to beat or draw against Denmark, but with 10 men we had little chance."

"Against China we played well. We were unlucky and the scoreline didn't show how close the game was," added Casagrande. "And USA, again the score didn't reflect how close we went,



especially when they scored two goals in injury time."

"Overall we weren't disappointed with the performance."

After such a heavy loss in their opening game, Australia could easily have

collapsed in dismay. But Casagrande reports the team spirit remained high and everyone fought on. "We all put that game down to bad refereeing so it wasn't too hard to pick ourselves back up. There was nothing else we could do about it. The Danish told Alison Forman we were unlucky with the send off. They had expected a closer game, but with a player short it was too hard."

The Aussies showed true character, improving their game as the week went on against even tougher opponents.

"In the US game, we had no weak links," recalls Casagrande. "We put in everything we had that's why we went so well."

After having played before huge crowds in Japan and Brazil, the Aussies found the small crowds in Sweden quite a let-down. The small numbers have been a noticeable disappointment following the huge audiences present in China's inaugural

World Cup in 1991.

"You really lose the effect of such a major event with no-one watching," said Casagrande.

Having missed qualification for the Atlanta Olympics Australia now has plenty of time to look to the future.

"We could've made the top eight if we had an easier draw, but now we need to rebuild for the 1999 World Cup," says Casagrande. "I think two tours a year are planned plus training camps leading up to the 1998 qualifiers."

"We're a fair way behind USA right now, but in the next four years we should be competitive. The Americans and Chinese are much more superior in technical skills, so I guess we need to work on that."

Having played at the top so early in her career, Lisa Casagrande is sure to play a key role in Australia's football development for many a year to come.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GL


BE
**SALZBURG:
AUSTRIAN
CHAMPIONS**

Austria Salzburg predictably clinched the Austrian championship for the second year in a row despite losing 2-0 to FC Tirol in Innsbruck.

Salzburg was named champion on superior goal difference after finishing the season tied on 47 points with Sturm Graz.

Graz carried its unbeaten run to 18 with a 2-1 win over Vorwaerts Steyr.

A crowd of 11,000, including about 6,000 who had journeyed from Salzburg, watched Salzburg take a 2-0 lead through Andreas Poiger in the 15th minute and Sammy Sane in the 37th.

"I am more than happy with the second title," said Salzburg coach Otto Baric. "But I am a little bit disappointed about the outcome of the final match. We had our chances in the first half and didn't take advantage of them."

Salzburg goalkeeper Otto Konrad, instrumental in his team's progression to the UEFA Cup final last year, added: "It was a difficult season for us because everyone was expecting us to win the championship again. We had our crisis earlier in the year and thank God we overcame it."

Graz and fourth-placed Austria Vienna will take part in the UEFA Cup with third-placed Rapid Vienna already qualified for the Cup Winners' Cup.

**PARREIRA
GOES TO
TURKEY**

World Cup-winning Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto Parreira, sacked by Spain's Valencia two weeks ago, joined Fenerbahce of Turkey on Saturday on a one-year contract. The club did not disclose terms.

Fenerbahce last week ended its contract with Croatian manager Tomislav Ivic, who took over in January after the sacking of German coach Holger Osieck.

Parreira was coach of the triumphant Brazilian 1994 World Cup team, but failed to spark Valencia.

A few days after the sacking it was reported from New York that Hank Steinbrecher, secretary general of the US federation, was travelling to Spain to try to sign Parreira as coach of the American national team.

Fenerbahce has had a modest season by its standards, finishing in fourth place in the Turkish first division.

**DORTMUND
CLINCH IT AT
THE DEATH**

Borussia Dortmund clinched its first German

CROATIA

Rich history of talent continues...

**SOME FACTS & FIGURES ON
CROATIAN SOCCER SUPPLIED BY
ABSW READER JOHN VISKOVICH**

→ Croatia has four players who play in Italy i.e. Vlaovic (Padova), Boban (Milan), Boksic (Lazio), and Jarni (Juventus). The two Serbs who play for Sampdoria i.e. Jugovic and Mihaglovic both have Croatian mothers and the latter is Croatian born.

→ Players who have won the European Cup are Prosinecki (Red Star), Boksic (Marseille), Boban (Milan) and Bulgan was a finalist with (Hamburg).

→ Yugoslavia won the World Youth Championship in 1987 with the Croatian's being the backbone. The best two players of the tournament were Prosinecki and Boban. Boban scored the winning goal in the final against Germany. The best defender was Pavlicic also a Croatian.

→ Dinamo Zagreb is the only team to win a major European trophy i.e. UEFA Cup in the 60's.

→ The most popular team in Croatia is Hajduk Split from the Dalmatian Coast. Most of Hajduk's talented players are bought by clubs from France, Spain and Italy before they peak and help Hajduk win something in Europe.

→ Croatia have more players overseas than any other country.

→ Players who have Croatian backgrounds and play for other countries include: Zoricich (New Zealand), Dasovic (Canada), Lucic (Sweden), Weber (Belgium), Bobic (Germany), Buljubasic (Argentina) and so many who play for Australia.

→ Australian goalkeepers who have Croatian backgrounds are Zabica, Petkovic, Blazincic, Bosnich, Kalac, Juric,



Boban: One of four Croatians playing in Serie A.

Perosh and Lapic.

→ Some of the best players include: Viduka, Skoko, Bacak, Moric, Milicic, Babic, Horvat, Orlic and so many others.

→ Some Croatian Australians who play overseas include Caleta (Malaysia), Zelic (Germany) and Bosnich (England), Krncvic and Arambasic (Belgium) and Markovac (Croatia).

→ Croatia have always had world class players and the best is Bernard Vukas who many believe was better than Ferenc Puskas. Vukas played for Hajduk and Bologna in Italy in the 1960-70s.

→ Some of Croatia's best players at the moment include Boban, Boksic Asanovic, Jarni, Prosinecki Mladenovic, Jurcevic, Kuzniku all of which are frequently shown on SBS soccer.

→ The best coaches include: Jozic (Chile), Bazic (Australia) and Tomislav Ivic (Turkey) who is the most successful coach in European soccer winning championships with Croatian, Portuguese, Greek, Turkish and Dutch sides.

→ Rumours about Croatian players are that Suker is on his way to Inter Milan, Boksic to Parma from Lazio and Prosinecki is going back to Real Madrid.

championship for 32 years with a 2-0 victory over Hamburg and a helping hand from reigning champion Bayern Munich on the last day of the season.

Dortmund, which started the day one point behind leader Werder Bremen, confidently beat Hamburg with first-half goals from German international midfielder Andy Moeller and teenager Lars Ricken.

Bremen's hopes of a fourth championship in its 96-year history ended when it lost 3-1 at Bayern to finish one point behind.

Despite having nothing to play for except pride, Bayern produced a spirited performance to stop Munich-bound coach Otto Rehhagel from ending his 14-year career at Bremen in style.

Rehhagel takes over at Bayern on July 1. But the Munich side made it quite clear before the game that it would not hand its future boss the title on a plate. Bayern's spirit won the club respect around Germany as well as in Dortmund.

It was the fifth consecutive season that the Bundesliga had been decided on the final day.

In 1992 Dortmund lost out to VfB Stuttgart on goal difference. But the side deserved the 1995 title after playing some superb football in the first half of the season.

Dortmund won the German championship previously in 1956, 1957 and 1963.

Moeller, Germany's biggest disappointment at last year's World Cup finals, gave Dortmund a

superb start against Hamburg when he struck home a spectacular free kick from long range in the eighth minute.

Ricken then effectively clinched the two points with Dortmund's second goal 20 minutes later. Many Dortmund fans spent most of the second half listening to their radios for the score from Munich.

The news was good. Bayern took an early lead when German international midfielder Christian Ziege headed in a free-kick from Mehmet Scholl in the 14th minute.

Bremen equalised with a penalty from Mario Basler in the 39th minute. But striker Alexander Zickler struck a clever shot into the top corner for Bayern's second goal in the 41st minute and

scored a crucial second in the 78th minute to give Dortmund a helping hand on its way to the title.

**COLLYMORE
BREAKS
TRANSFER
RECORD**

Liverpool have smashed British soccer's transfer record to bring striker Stan Collymore to Anfield, the club's chief executive Peter Robinson confirmed last Saturday.

Robinson, who negotiated the deal alongside manager Roy Evans, said Liverpool's return to European competition had swayed it into paying Nottingham Forest \$18.78 million for the 24-year-old England international.

Collymore, bought by

Forest for \$4.42 million from Southend in July 1993, succeeds Andy Cole, whose purchase from Newcastle cost Manchester United \$15.47 million in January, as Britain's costliest player.

The former Crystal Palace man, who was thrown out by lowly Walsall as a teenager, failed to make the grade at Wolves but resurrected his career with minor league Stafford, will be expected to lead Liverpool's UEFA Cup goals hunt next season.

"Two things swayed it," explained Robinson. "He is young and he is English. He has the potential to be a top player for a long period."

"It is a high fee but the fact that Stan is English put a premium on the price because of the restrictions which limit the number of foreign players you can use in European competition."

"We want to be competing successfully in Europe every year. To do this, we must have a majority of English players."

Collymore, who also had talks with Everton this week, made his English league debut with Palace, but netted just once in 20 outings.

That did not prevent then-Southend manager Barry Fry from spotting his potential, and Collymore repaid the club's modest outlay by netting 18 goals in 33 games in the 1992-93 season.

He fired 24 goals the following season at Forest, then in the first division, earned a quick return to the premier league and scored 25 goals in 1994-95 to help Frank Clark's side finish third.

Collymore won his first England cap against Japan in an international at Wembley earlier this month, and his second as a substitute against Brazil.

**U.S. ROUT
MEXICO**

The United States routed Mexico 4-0 on Sunday in the US Cup 95 tournament, the first time in 61 years the US managed that number of goals in a match against its southern neighbour.

Roy Wegerle, Thomas Dooley, John Harkes and Claudio Reyna scored for the US, which posted only its seventh victory over Mexico in 43 matches.

The clean sheet belonged to Kasey Keller, making his first appearance in goal for the US since May 1992. The last time Mexico allowed four goals to the US was in the 1934 World Cup, when the US won 4-2 in Rome.

Wegerle opened the scoring in the third minute. Reyna put the ball through and the South African-born forward got behind defender Marcelino Bernal.

Reyna, playing his first international at centre-

forward, created the second goal, heading to Dooley who scored. He beat Mexican keeper Jorge Campos in the 26th minute.

Eleven minutes later, Campos deflected a shot by Eric Wynalda, but it bounced toward Harkes who scored his sixth goal in 54 international appearances.

**BAGGIO TO
JAPAN?**

Italian star Roberto Baggio has confirmed he could join a Japanese club, saying the move should not affect his chances of playing for his country in next year's European championship finals in England.

Baggio, who is set to leave Juventus after failing to agree on a new contract, said he may wear the colours of Japanese club Yomiuri Verdy then return to Europe at the end of 1996.

"There are a lot of great players in Japan. I could also return to Europe after the European championships," Baggio told the Gazzetta dello Sport in an interview.

AC Milan is reported to be interested in signing Baggio but is said to be balking at a transfer fee of around \$19.32 million.

Baggio said it was "50/50" whether he would be playing in Serie A next season, adding he would announce his decision next month.

**AALBORG
WIN FIRST
TITLE**

Erik Bo Andersen scored a hat-trick as Aalborg beat Aarhus 4-0 on the final day of the Super League last Sunday to become Danish champion for the first time in its 110-year history.

Aalborg's only other honours came when it won the Danish Cup in 1966 and 1970.

Andersen, who has forced his way into the national team this season, capped an excellent campaign by striking the first three goals of the match and become the season's top league scorer with 24 goals.

Broendby, equal on points with Aalborg ahead of the final round, lost 1-0 to local rival FC Copenhagen in front of 36,623 spectators, a Super League record, to finish second and clinch a place in next season's UEFA Cup.

Silkeborg, who ended a 77-year wait for its first title when it won the championship last year, clinched third place and the second of Denmark's two UEFA slots despite going down 2-0 at Lyngby.

FC Copenhagen, who won the Danish cup, will represent the country in the European Cup winners' Cup.

JUERGEN KLINSMANN-

You have a particularly wide knowledge of European and world football through having played at top level in Germany, Italy, France and now England. How do the different styles compare?

Juergen Klinsmann: It is always difficult to compare different countries precisely because every country has its own style. The English style is a very open and offensive mentality. They just go as fast they can to create as many chances as they can. The pace of the game here is very intense.

The Italian style is to be very well-organised – tactically, the highest level at which I have played. The players know each exact detail of their organisation on the pitch, as you can see in their results in European competitions. But the pace is neither as high as it is in England or Germany.

The Bundesliga is something in between. German teams have a certain level of tactical education but still love to attack. France was a very different experience. When I went there the priority for every club was not to concede a goal and then wait, all 90 minutes if necessary, in the hope of snatching one. But it's started to change with the switch to three points for a win. When I was there only Paris Saint-Germain and Marseille – as they used to be – dared to attack.

English football is considered one of the most entertaining styles – when English teams are playing each other. But European club results suggest that, technically and tactically, they still lack a certain football sophistication.

Compared with Italy and France the English game, tactically, is not on the same level but they have their own way of causing continental teams trouble.

Good examples this season have been Newcastle and Aston Villa in the UEFA Cup. They controlled their games and played really well but they were not clever enough to close down the games – in Villa's case against Trabzonspor and in Newcastle's case Athletic Bilbao.

It's a question of experience because the English clubs were out of European competition for a long time. The trick is making sure that, at

Germany, France, Italy, England...

home, if you maybe lead 1-0, then you should not chase a second at all costs.

That's what happened to Newcastle. Kevin Keegan said after the game that he had wanted to get out on the pitch and pull his players back. In these sorts of games you have to keep calm.

For the first time, with Germany, you have become a captain. Did you ever want the honour or responsibility before?

Yes – but I never stayed long enough in any one place. It usually goes to the most experienced player or the one with longest service in the club. I always left before I got in danger of becoming captain. If I had stayed at Inter now I think I would have come close to it. As for Germany, that's a little different.

It's certainly a great pleasure because being captain of your national team means something special. I know that I am captain of Germany only until Lothar Matthaus is fit again.

What do you do as captain that is different?

For one thing, you are closer to the manager. You discuss certain points with him, more than I did before as an ordinary team member. Then you have to look after the players who are playing for the national team for the first time.

You have to make sure that the team spirit is OK but, if you feel something is going wrong or a particular player has a problem, then it is now your job to look after him, to discuss it with him and talk to the manager about it.

It's important you make every player feel he is a really important member of the team. Against Georgia, for



Juergen Klinsmann: A man of many experiences.

example, we had a case in point in Thomas Hassler.

Now he has 60 caps already for Germany and has played all the recent big tournaments unbelievably well, but he's going through a period in which things are going badly. You can tell this is weighing on his mind. Then it's the job of the captain to tell the manager so he can reassure the player that his loss of form is only temporary.

You've played football in four countries now but is it right to think that living in different countries is as important for you as playing there?

I always wanted to go abroad. At 15 or 16 I started travelling around Europe and, at 18, I went to America for the first time. I always wanted to go abroad to meet different people and see different lifestyles so it was logical that one day, if I got the chance to go abroad for work, I would use it.

Actually, I might have started two years before I went to Inter. In 1988 Monaco wanted to buy me but I was not a national team player then so Stuttgart said: No way. I suppose they wanted to wait until they could get more money for me! The start of the season before I did go was really interesting. Even before we had played a game people were already discussing what I would do at the end of the season, would I stay or would I leave?

The funniest thing was the attitude of Arie Haan, our manager

then. He said quite openly: "There's no doubt, this guy will leave at the end of the season." Now you would expect your manager to say that he hopes you would stay. Instead Haan was saying: "This guy HAS to leave and I accept he is looking forward to the experience." And so football has given me the opportunity to meet different people, learn different languages and handle different mentalities. I didn't think in the beginning that it would be so

difficult. I thought, okay, it is still Europe.

You can drive all over Europe in your car and you can be back in Germany quickly. But when I came down into Italy it was really hard in the beginning. It took me a while to understand that you had to take the people the way they are and not the way you want them to be. We Germans have this thing that we always want to be kind of perfect. So we want other people to be the same.

In Italy they have a different attitude. I mean, if you have an appointment at two o'clock and the person comes at four o'clock and then you get upset, he looks at you and asks: "What's your problem? Then, eventually, you understand this is not Germany, this is Italy. So, you learn to handle this and accept it and respect it and then YOU start to change.

When in Rome do as Romans?

Precisely. If not, then you won't survive and you'll have gained nothing. I mean, I'm only going to play another two or three years, I guess. But when I look back I don't think I will count how many goals I scored or whatever happened but I can say to myself I lived in other countries, I learned the languages enough to speak them reasonably well – not perfect, but quite well. That will be a big satisfaction. These are the things which make you rich inside.

Are you ambitious to play in any other countries?

You cannot play in every country. There are too many! But I did have the chance to play in Spain twice, with Real Madrid. The first time was in 1989 and I had a choice between Real and Inter and I decided on Inter.

The main reason was because there were two Germans already playing there, Matthaus and Brehme. A second point was that it was comparatively close to Stuttgart, to my home. I need to feel I can get home quickly because my family and my friends mean a lot to me.

At this time in 1989 it seemed better to be four or five hours away by car than having to fly a long way from Madrid to Stuttgart. The second time was in 1992 when I discussed going there with Leo Beenakker, who was then the coach. But it all blew up because Beenakker got sacked. So, instead, I talked with Paris Saint-Germain and with Monaco and decided on Monaco.

Moving on to the international scene, what do you expect of the European Championship finals in England?

I'm sure there won't be any problems. For sure it was a shock for everyone in England when trouble blew up in Dublin. But just analyse what happened: there was no fence, the trouble-makers were neo-Nazis trying to get some publicity and they knew that the security forces in Dublin were not prepared for any kind of trouble. That's why it all started and that, in turn, influenced some drunken fans – and that was the story. But I think the European Championship will be very well organised. I have noticed how incredibly well disciplined the fans are in England.

I've never seen fans like it in Germany, Italy and not even in France – particularly when you consider there are no fences any more. You would think, having the fans so close to you, that you would feel in danger but that is not the case. You feel safe. I enjoy this feeling you get when the ball goes out of play and you see these little kids sitting in the front rows.

They have big eyes and they smile at you – you can see they are happy.

That gives me the impression there will be no problems at Euro '96. Of course, you never know. There are stupid people everywhere. Football's problem is that it gets so much worldwide attention, from media and the public, you will always have crazy people trying to use this publicity, this stage, to gain attention.



Juergen Klinsmann with Osvaldo Ardiles: The man who enticed the German to English football.

"We Germans have this thing, that we always want to be kind of perfect."

FOOTBALL JOURNEYMAN

and now back to Germany

On the subject of the relationship between fans and players, how did you view the Cantona incident?

He has had problems before, hasn't he, in trying to keep his temper under control? The public notice things like that and it becomes a game. So the fans at away games start baiting him to try to find his limit.

What happened at Selhurst Park was that he was sent off for a foul which, in my opinion, did not deserve a red card. He touched the player with a kick but I thought to show the red card immediately was exaggerated. So when Cantona left the pitch he was insulted in a very bad way by a fan and, yes, he went beyond his limit of tolerance.

I blame Cantona but I also blame the public for playing games with players like that.

What about the media pressure in Italy compared with England?

It is a different kind of pressure. In Italy they have three sport newspapers every single day and they need to fill their pages but they write about the football itself and sport in general.

In England you have the problem that you have seven or eight tabloid papers. They try to find their stories off the pitch so the Cantona case was really big for them.

They started following him everywhere. It didn't stop when he left the training ground, or when he left the stadium. I had the same problem for the first couple of months when I came to England.

I saw them following me. I saw them waiting across the street with cameras so I knew they were more interested in my private life than what was actually happening on the football pitch.

How does it work in Italy?

In Italy they come up every day to the training ground, all the journalists, also the TV, and if you have 15 or 20 minutes for them then it is fine. They are happy, you've done your job by them and after that they leave you alone. No-one ever tried to call me at home in Italy.

Never, in all the three years I was there. Not in England! Here they try to find out everything. It's annoying. It was interesting studying how

they work. They went into the shops where I went and asked the people what was I buying, what was I talking about?

So I went to one of these shops and I said: "You see these guys, hanging around here with these cameras? Just give them a message for me. Tell them that I have a lot of respect for them, tell them that they are professionals, that I understand they are only doing their job because they have a market here for this kind of stuff. But tell them that I am also a professional. They can save a lot of money by not following me for two years." That is what I told them and they left me alone.

When the German national team went to Georgia the players were staying, for the first time in nine years, in the same hotel as the media. How did that work out?

After the game we went into the hotel bar and there were all the journalists too and we had a couple of beers and some good conversations. It was a relaxed atmosphere. I think it's interesting for us players to have a chat with journalists. In Germany the problem has been that, with so many media outlets the competition among them, because it is so intense, they didn't respect the normal rules any more. I think most of us would love to have a couple of beers after the game with the journalists if we could be sure of their discretion.

Jürgen Kohler has said he will finish his international career after the 1996 European Championships. He is nearly the same age as you. Will you retire from the national team too?

As long as my form remains then I want to play for Germany because I always enjoy it

amounts such as \$50,000-\$60,000 for four or five interviews. I would wonder what kind of business was that? I didn't know the people at all. They just left their name, what paper they write for, and the offer.

Does the defeat by Bulgaria in the World Cup still bother you?

No, not any more, but it took me a long time to forget about it, because I had been concentrating on this last World Cup over a long period. Players sacrifice a lot for a big tournament like that. For example I am not a player who likes to stay in hotels or training camps. I need to get out, to see people, to discuss things. But when a big tournament is coming up you sacrifice yourself for this tournament in order to try to be successful.

At USA '94 we had a couple of problems when the tournament started but then, finally, we found our form. We had a great game against Belgium and that was the moment when I really thought we had turned the corner. Of course, we had problems with certain players like Illgner and Effenberg. With Effenberg, he made one mistake during the World Cup [a rude gesture to German fans] but then he sold his story to the newspapers. I still thought then, and particularly after the

last summer, we struggled but had no luck – which was right, of course. We deserved what we got.

How have footballers changed over the decade you have been a professional?

Over the past 12 or 13 years I have no doubt that players have become a lot more professional – for a mixture of reasons. One is that the media now plays such a big part. That brings more pressure because players are watched by more people. Also, I think players today are much more conscious of their health.

Ten or 15 years ago once you had reached the age of 30 you were finished. Today, you can push this limit up to 35, easily. You have players in every country demonstrating the fact. Then, players today are much better able to handle the responsibilities. For example, in Italy and Germany they will have training camps for home games but, in my opinion, they don't need them any more because the players are responsible enough.

They know what to do. Once a player makes a mistake you show him and he won't do it again. But then, if he DOES, you send him home. You know, young players come up to me and ask:

"Jürgen, what do you eat?" because they want to get their diet right,

they want to be responsible, they want to be professional. Players like that don't need to be taken away to training camps. They are sensible enough to be allowed to stay at home the night before a game and come straight to the match the next day, two hours before kick-off.

Will we ever get Italian players going abroad?

No, first of all because they feel very happy at home in Italy. I only met one player in Italy who

thought he would like to try going abroad. I never got the idea anyone else was interested. The fact that countries such as England and Germany are growing financially stronger – and can offer at last the same amount of money as the Italians – won't change things.

Any Italian players who did move would find it hard, harder than it was for me, going the other way. Any Italian player who came over to England or to Germany, where the game is a lot faster, could struggle.

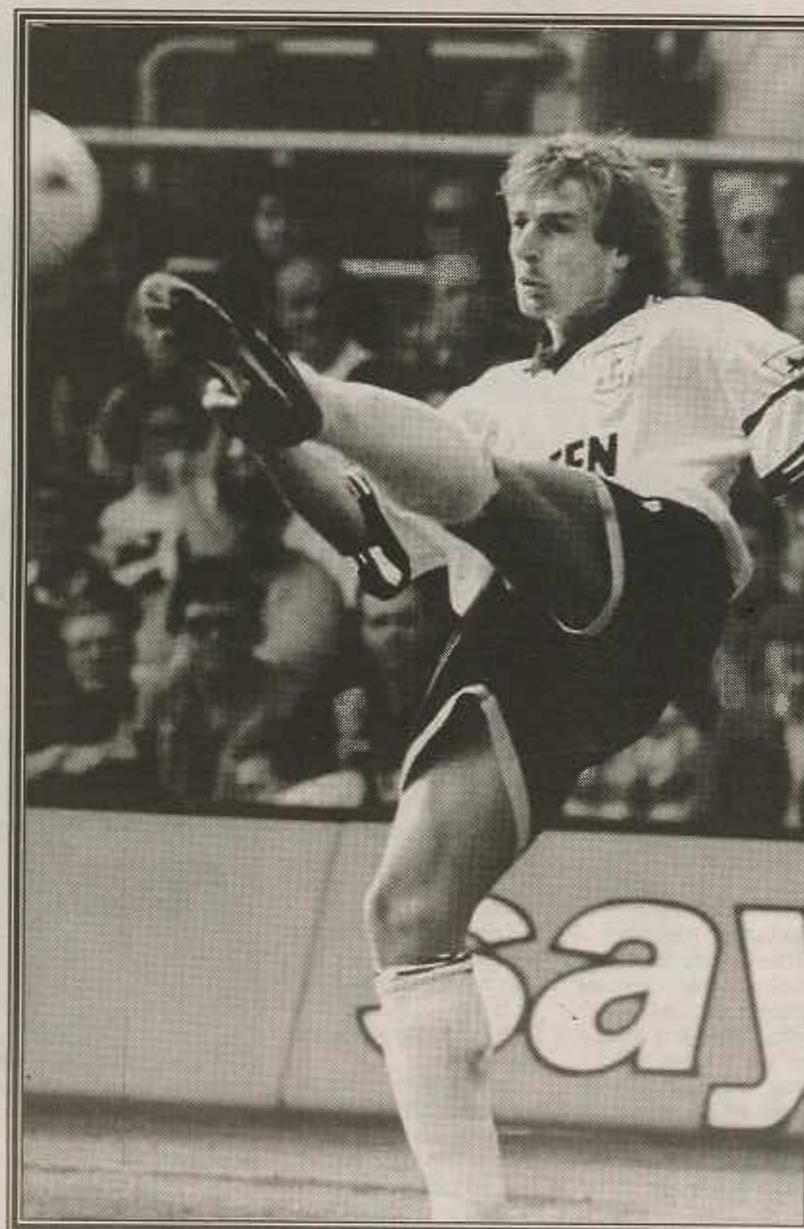
Talking about matters English, what did the FA Cup mean to you?

It means a lot but that does not have anything to do with the fact that I am German. It's just the fact that we were not qualified originally for the FA Cup; everyone knows the story of the six points and the Cup ban. Then, suddenly, they decided in December that Tottenham should be given the points back and we were back in the Cup. That's when I started to realise what this FA Cup means for the people in England. I didn't know before.

It started with our first game, against a non-league team called Altrincham. The whole atmosphere around Tottenham changed overnight and everyone was talking about the FA Cup.

I thought, this means we start with an away game because that's the rule in Germany. That was my first mistake. The second was to think that, OK, we will play at White Hart Lane but no more than a few thousand will come to watch. The next thing, I was being told the game was a sell-out. That's when I said to myself: "There's more to this FA Cup than I had thought!"

It was just the same with the next round against Sunderland. I realised that the FA Cup is more important to the people than the championship.



Big disappointment: The 1994 German World Cup team.

WILL JAPAN BE THE NEW BRAZIL?

Japan may have lost to England and Brazil in the four-nation international challenge tournament but they have certainly won many admirers for the way they have played.

Japan's version of Brazil's "Beautiful Game" may never be as cultured or as powerful as the masters. But they are learning fast:

It was inevitable that the Japanese, with their great thirst for knowledge and expertise, should choose the Brazilian footballer as their role model when they decided to launch themselves seriously into the world of professional soccer.

Since the inception of the J-League in 1993, a steady stream of Brazilians have been lured to Japan with lucrative contracts.

Initially, it was established stars such as Zico and Careca who gave them instant credibility, just as Pele had done for the United States in the 1970s.

But after this week's tournament in England, the number of current Brazilian internationals earning their living in Japan will rise to seven with the capture of Dunga, the world champions' captain, who is moving from Stuttgart to Jubilo Iwata.

Already there are Jorginho and Leonardo (Kashima Antlers), Gilmar (Cerezo Osaka), Ronaldao (Shimizu S-Pulse) and Zinho and Cesar Sampiao (Yokohama Flugels).

Jorginho, Zinho and Leonardo, who came on as a substitute, all played in Brazil's



Kazuyoshi Miura

3-0 victory when the masters showed their pupils the standard that their enthusiastic disciples can only dream about.

But it was clear that some of the Brazilian magic was rubbing off on the Japanese.

Their eagerness to attack at every opportunity was in the very best Brazilian tradition. And had their finishing matched their enterprise, they would have scored the goal they deserved.

Yet it was the Dutch to whom Japan initially turned for guidance. Hans Ooft led them to their first international success in the Dynasty and Asian Cups in 1992.

He might still have been in charge but for an Iraqi equaliser 90 seconds into injury time in Japan's final World Cup qualifier.

That enabled great rivals South Korea to pip them on goal difference for a place in the World Cup in the United States last year.

Falcao, the great Brazilian midfielder, was handed the reigns and went for youth at the expense of experience. He eventually gave way to current coach Shu Kamo following a defeat by South Korea in the Asian Games in Hiroshima.

However, their belief in the Brazilian way remains unshakable, as does the South American influence at coaching level with Brazilian Nelsinho steering Verdy Kawasaki to the J-League title last season.

Among Kamo's coaching staff are two more Brazilians — Flavio, who works as the national team's "physical coach" and Mario, the specialist

goalkeeping coach.

With typical thoroughness Japan have even founded their own club, Hyogo FC, in Brazil's Pirana state so that they may study the Brazilians in their own environment.

The club has already produced a useful playmaker, 21-year-old Japanese-born, Brazilian-bred Takanordi Nunobe.

Kazuyoshi Miura, Japan's best-known player, spent five years in Brazil from the age of 15 in what amounted to a football scholarship with Santos, Pele's old club.

He went on to become the first Japanese to play in Serie A in Italy with Genoa.

"It is important that we don't just stand and admire the Brazilians in our midst but learn from them," Miura said.

Among Kamo's coaching staff are two more Brazilians — Flavio, who works as the national team's "physical coach" and Mario, the specialist

It was clear that some of the Brazilian magic was rubbing off on the Japanese.



Jorginho: One of the Brazilian stars currently playing in Japan.

There can be no doubt that the export of many of Brazil's best players will do wonders for the development of Japanese soccer. But one cannot help

wondering what effect playing in the less than competitive J-League will have upon their own performances at international level.

As Leonardo, who has also played in Spain, said this week: "Living in Japan is a very good experience. I hope it is the right thing for my career as well."

FIFA WORLD RANKINGS

TEAM	POINTS MAI 95	CHANGE 19.4.- 16.5.95	TEAM	POINTS MAI 95	CHANGE 19.4.- 16.5.95	TEAM	POINTS MAI 95	CHANGE 19.4.- 16.5.95	TEAM	POINTS MAI 95	CHANGE 19.4.- 16.5.95
1 Brazil	66.05	0	37 Korea Republic	41.01	-2	73 Malawi	28.74	-2	109 Gambia	15.05	-1
2 Italy	62.23	0	38 Finland	40.32	+2	74 Ukraine	25.79	+8	110 MADAGASCAR	14.03	0
3 Spain	61.26	0	39 Slovakia	40.10	-1	75 Bahrain	25.55	0	111 India	13.98	0
4 NORWAY	60.08	+2	40 AUSTRIA	39.58	+7	76 LATVIA	25.49	-3	112 LUXEMBOURG	13.97	+1
5 Germany	59.97	-1	41 Zimbabwe	39.04	-1	77 Mozambique	25.19	+7	113 Belarus	13.95	+7
6 SWEDEN	59.19	-1	42 ICELAND	38.07	0	78 NIGER	25.09	-1	114 MOLDOVA	13.89	-2
7 Netherlands	58.84	0	43 Wales	37.92	+6	79 Oman	24.82	-3	115 Namibia	13.04	-1
8 ARGENTINA	57.61	0	44 CAMEROON	37.83	-8	80 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	24.43	-2	116 ESTONIA	12.85	-1
9 Mexico	57.54	0	45 Senegal	37.79	+5	81 Togo	24.20	-2	117 Surinam	12.67	+2
10 Ireland Republic	56.89	+1	46 ISRAEL	37.47	-2	82 ANGOLA	24.19	+11	118 TURKMENISTAN	12.63	-2
11 Romania	56.63	-1	47 UAE	37.07	-1	83 Iran	23.88	-3	119 Syria	12.57	-1
12 Bulgaria	56.46	+1	48 CHINA PR	37.00	-3	84 SLOVENIA	23.25	-3	120 BERMUDA	12.53	-3
13 Switzerland	55.13	-1	49 Chile	36.42	-6	85 Yugoslavia	22.95	-2	121 Fiji	11.73	0
14 Denmark	55.02	+1	50 AUSTRALIA	36.34	-2	86 UZBEKISTAN	22.83	-1	122 JORDAN	11.07	0
15 Russia	54.26	+2	51 Croatia	36.04	+5	87 Thailand	22.50	-1	123 Venezuela	11.03	0
16 PORTUGAL	53.21	-2	52 NORTHERN IRELAND	35.87	+2	88 FYR MACEDONIA	21.98	+4	124 GUINEA-BISSAU	11.02	0
17 France	52.82	+1	53 Hungary	35.11	+4	89 Malta	21.56	-1	125 Myanmar	10.95	0
18 Belgium	50.82	+3	54 GUINEA	34.74	-3	90 KENYA	21.35	-1	126 BARBADOS	10.74	0
19 Colombia	50.44	-3	55 Algeria	34.65	-2	91 Jamaica	21.15	-2	127 Puerto Rico	10.59	0
20 NIGERIA	50.17	-1	56 Mali	34.38	+3	92 IRAQ	20.99	-1	128 ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES	10.14	0
21 England	49.22	-1	57 Honduras	32.87	-5	93 Georgia	20.83	+7	129 Swaziland	9.90	0
22 Czech Republic	46.74	+8	58 Bolivia	32.42	-3	94 Sudan	20.27	+13	130 BURUNDI	9.89	0
23 Egypt	46.27	+3	59 Kuwait	32.14	-1	95 Korea DPR	19.85	-1	131 St Lucia	9.70	0
24 GREECE	45.73	-1	60 SOUTH AFRICA	31.81	+2	96 ERHIOPIA	19.50	+1	132 BANGLADESH	9.14	0
25 Tunisia	45.70	-1	61 Lithuania	31.30	-1	97 El Salvador	19.47	-10	133 Armenia	8.95	+11
26 Ghana	45.57	+1	62 Ecuador	31.15	-1	98 Burkina Faso	18.60	-2	134 SAN MARINO	8.92	0
27 USA	45.50	-5	63 Sierra Leone	31.03	+6	99 Malaysia	18.56	-4	135 Lebanon	8.92	-1
28 Saudi Arabia	44.94	-3	64 Zaire	30.71	+6	100 Hong Kong	18.11	-2	136 Lesotho	8.35	-1
29 Zambia	44.31	-1	65 Qatar	30.68	-2	101 Albania	17.92	-2	137 Faroe Islands	8.32	-1
30 Turkey	43.36	+7	66 Cyprus	30.27	-1	102 Liberia	17.83	+7	138 MAURITIUS	7.25	-1
31 Scotland	43.13	-1	67 Canada	30.22	-3	103 Paraguay	17.51	-2	139 Haiti	7.13	0
32 Uruguay	42.63	-3	68 Gabon	29.82	+4	104 Congo	17.49	-2	140 INDONESIA	7.09	-2
33 Cote d'Ivoire	42.55	+6	69 Peru	29.36	+4	105 Mauritania	16.86	-1	141 Panama	6.75	-1
34 Morocco	42.45	-2	70 Tanzania	29.26	-3	106 New Zealand	16.80	-3	142 Azerbaijan	6.58	+6
35 Japan	42.15	-2	71 Uganda	29.01	-5	107 Yemen	16.21	-2	143 St Kitts & Nevis	6.56	-1
36 Poland	41.94	-2	72 Costa Rica	28.88	-4	108 Singapore	15.57	-2	144 MACAO	0.00	0

Games greats knock changes

Michel Platini doesn't like penalty shoot-outs and Franz Beckenbauer is against time-outs.

Two of soccer's most famous and respected figures took part in FIFA-led discussions on the future of the world's most popular sport and warned president Joao Havelange, general secretary Sepp Blatter and UEFA leader Lennart Johansson that changing the rules doesn't necessarily improve the game as a spectacle.

"It doesn't make sense... to stop the game four times," Bayern Munich president Beckenbauer said. "Especially in view of the discussion to make the game more attractive, faster."

Former French star Platini said he was against timeouts, as was John Toshack, coach of Spanish first division side Deportivo La Coruna.

Beckenbauer also raised doubts about the use of kick-ins instead of throw-ins. "It will be more and more static, create more and more specialists," Beckenbauer predicted.

Blatter said that the kick-in system was well received in Belgium where it was tried out in the second division and the 18 clubs wanted to continue the trial during the 1995/96 season.

Platini, in charge of the French preparations for the World Cup 1998, has



Michel Platini: No shoot-outs.

strong views in a discussion about "golden goals" to decide a game. He said the World Cup final must not be settled through a shoot-out, the game should be played until one side finally scores.

Johansson, president of UEFA and vice-president of FIFA, who chaired "Task Force Football 2000," said efforts should continue to keep the fans in secure as well as comfortable surroundings while they were entertained.

"Seated stadiums have come to stay, and wherever possible fencing must be removed," Johansson said. "But we must be very careful and work towards a situation where we provide comfort and safety."

Another major issue facing soccer is "merchandising and marketing," Johansson said. "Football is no longer a self-playing piano."

Sandra Cress of the United States, competition manager of the Olympic soccer tournament in Atlanta, noted that soccer is up against stiff

competition from major US professional leagues such as the NBA, NFL and baseball leagues which are "bombarding Europe with strong marketing."

Often the only way to get hold of a soccer team shirt is via mail order while a Chicago Bulls' shirt is available in a store, Cress noted.

Police also stepped up security outside Prime Minister Lamberto Dini's office after Lazio fans tried to break through crowd control barriers that normally protect the building.

Cragnotti had said he would accept a \$A21.27 million bid from Parma but he failed to foresee the fans' wrath.

Signori, Italian World

Cup player, club captain and the most consistent marksman in Serie A over the past three seasons, is a folk hero to many Lazio fans.

But Cragnotti was quoted in last week's *Gazzetta dello Sport* as saying: "This is the moment to use your head rather than listen to your heart."

Cragnotti said Parma could afford to pay that much as they had lined up an \$A15.29 million transfer for their Colombian international Faustino Asprilla.

He said he would use the money from the sale to strengthen the Lazio squad.

"Signori is a great player but he'll be 28 next February. He's been at the top for three years, how much longer can he keep it up? Maybe two years," said Cragnotti.

Zoff said that Cragnotti felt "particularly let down" by the fans' behaviour.

The Signori deal would have been one of the biggest in soccer history, almost matching the estimated \$A22.24 million move which took Gianluca Vialli from Sampdoria to Juventus in 1992.

Disgusted Cragnotti wants out over Signori deal

Lazio owner Sergio Cragnotti has decided to sell his stake in the team out of disgust over fans who besieged the club's administrative headquarters to protest against the planned sale of striker Giuseppe Signori to Parma.

"I am selling, I am resigning from all positions, I am very saddened and I don't intend to have anything to do with sport," he was quoted as saying by the Italian news agency Ansa.

Lazio president Dino Zoff told reporters earlier Cragnotti was considering selling his stake in Lazio because of his disappointment over the fans' behaviour.

Lazio decided not to sell Signori to Parma after the irate fans, some overturning rubbish bins, marched through Rome to the club's headquarters.

After the incidents, Zoff hastily called a news conference to announce that Signori had been "taken off the market".

Police rushed to the club's headquarters after the fans gathered outside and threw tomatoes and coins at the entrance.



Giuseppe Signori: The centre of Lazio fans' disgust.

Major League Soccer

New competition will have the world's top players

One year after hosting the World Cup, the United States still has no premier league and the sport remains a poor stepchild to basketball and baseball.

Brazil's shoot-out triumph over Italy capped a stunning 24-team showcase of the world's finest talent.

"Not only was it successful, but it was the greatest World Cup of all time anywhere," World Cup organising chairman Alan Rothenberg said.

But any momentum for starting a new US league has died in the past 12 months, with soccer vanishing from television screens and newspapers.

* Rothenberg vows his fledgling 10-team Major League Soccer (MLS) will debut in nine months on a par with some of the world's top leagues.

"From the beginning, we will be a credible division one league," Rothenberg said. "Maybe we won't be the Italian league, the German Bundesliga or the English and Spanish leagues. After those top leagues, we will be credible with the other countries."

MLS was to open last April, but a lack of financial support from US companies forced a delay. The wait cost MLS a chance to benefit from fan rebellion after baseball's labor fight.

"We are where we want to

be," Rothenberg said. "We have commitments for 75

million dollars to fund the league through the early

days. We have made good business deals. Signings are

not going to be budget breakers."

Players will be owned by MLS and assigned to teams, with Ramos in New Jersey and Los Angeles having Mexico World Cup goalkeeper Jorge Campos, the only non-US player signed so far.

"There are no recruiting barriers," Rothenberg said. "We're not going to limit ourselves to any areas. We're not going to compete for everyone in Europe. But there is a huge market out there. I'm sure we will have top international players from around the world playing in MLS."

MLS will scour the world for coaches and managers as well. But those who accept the jobs will not have total roster control. Some clubs will be league run and some will be guided by investors.

Rothenberg wants coaches who play an "attractive" brand of football for goal-hungry US audiences. And pity the director of operations for a woeful club operating with league funding only.

"We will have some top notch general managers whose necks will be in the noose," Rothenberg said. "If they don't do well, we will pull the chair out from under them and hang them."

Each club has a salary cap of 1.13 million dollars, so

MLS
SOCER

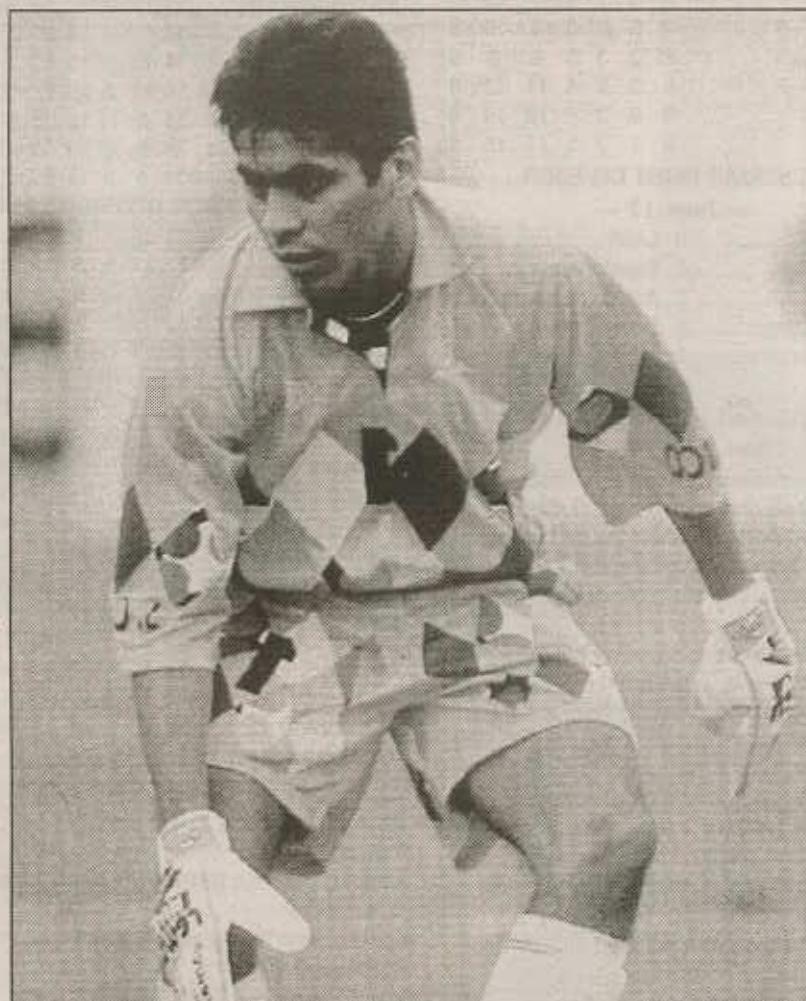
expect a handful of well-paid stars and many lesser-paid fill-ins from the US ranks. And no British hooligans or Cantona kicks, please. This is family entertainment.

"Last year's World Cup turned us on to soccer, which we hadn't been exposed to before. We think MLS is perfect family entertainment," said Jonathan Kraft, whose family owns the Boston MLS club and an American football team.

MLS was forced into larger stadiums to find proper facilities in their markets, which include World Cup sites Dallas, Tampa, Washington, Boston, Los Angeles, New Jersey and San Jose plus Denver, Kansas City and Columbus, Ohio.

Organisers would be happy with 10,000 fans a game and growing interest. And they remind doubters of record World Cup attendances.

"Before the World Cup, I can't remember a press guy saying it was a good idea," said Hank Steinbrecher, the US Soccer Federation's secretary general. "Those same voices are saying MLS can't get off the ground and soccer is dead. They will have to eat crow twice."



Jorge Campos: The colourful Mexican goalkeeper is the only non-U.S. player signed to M.L.S. so far.

That will take money. A loan from the World Cup profits provided seed money for FIFA's legacy league. But MLS investors must repay that money and finance the transfer fees needed to provide top talent.

"We are where we want to

be," Rothenberg said. "We have commitments for 75

million dollars to fund the league through the early

days. We have made good business deals. Signings are

not going to be budget breakers."

Players will be owned by

MLS and assigned to teams,

with Ramos in New Jersey

and Los Angeles having

Mexico World Cup

goalkeeper Jorge Campos,

the only non-US player

signed so far.

Police also stepped up

security outside Prime

Minister Lamberto Dini's

office after Lazio fans tried

to break through crowd

control barriers that

normally protect the

building.

Cragnotti had said he

would accept a \$A21.27

million bid from Parma but

he failed to foresee the

fans' wrath.

Signori, Italian World

not going to be budget

breakers."

Players will be owned by

MLS and assigned to teams,

with Ramos in New Jersey

and Los Angeles having

Mexico World Cup

goalkeeper Jorge Campos,

the only non-US player

signed so far.

Police also stepped up

security outside Prime

Minister Lamberto Dini's

office after Lazio fans tried

to break through crowd

control barriers that

normally protect the

building.

Cragnotti had said he

would accept a \$A21.27

million bid from Parma but

he failed to foresee the

fans' wrath.

Signori, Italian World

not going to be budget

breakers."

Players will be owned by

MLS and assigned to teams,

with Ramos in New Jersey

and Los Angeles having

Mexico World Cup

goalkeeper Jorge Campos,

the only non-US player

signed so far.

Police also stepped up

security outside Prime

Minister Lamberto Dini's

office after Lazio fans tried

to break through crowd

control barriers that

normally protect the

building.

Cragnotti had said he

would accept a \$A21.27

million bid from Parma but

he failed to foresee the

fans' wrath.

Signori, Italian World

not going to be budget

breakers."

Players will be owned by

MLS and assigned to teams,

with Ramos in New Jersey

and Los Angeles having

Mexico World Cup

goalkeeper Jorge Campos,

the only non-US player

signed so far.

Police also stepped up

security outside Prime

Minister Lamberto Dini's

office after Lazio fans tried

to break through crowd

control barriers that

normally protect the

WORLD RESULTS AND TABLES

DANISH FIRST DIVISION
— June 12 —

Aarhus	3	Lynby	2
Broendby	2	Aalborg	1
Odense	1	FC Copenhagen	2
Silkeborg	1	Naestved	2

TABLE

Aalborg	13	6	4	3	26	13	29
Broendby	13	6	3	4	21	17	29
Silkeborg	13	6	3	4	23	14	24
Aarhus	13	7	2	4	21	19	24
Naestved	13	4	4	5	18	21	21
Odense	13	3	3	7	16	23	21
FC Copenhagen	13	4	4	5	20	28	20
Lynby	13	4	1	8	18	28	19

Note: Points include those from autumn part of season.

SWISS CHAMPIONSHIP
— June 12 —

Basle	0	Aarau	1
Lausanne	2	Neuchatel Xamax	3
Lugano	3	Sion	2
Lucerne	0	Grasshoppers	0

TABLE

Grasshoppers	14	9	3	2	25	13	37
Lugano	14	6	5	3	25	17	30
Neuchatel	14	6	4	4	27	19	28
Aarau	14	5	4	5	17	16	27
Lucerne	14	5	5	4	14	18	25
Sion	14	5	2	7	24	25	24
Basle	14	7	0	7	20	19	24
Lausanne	14	1	1	12	11	35	15

CZECH REPUBLIC FIRST DIVISION
— June 12 —
Final Round

FK Jablonec	0	Sparta Praha	1
Slavia Praha	2	Viktoria Plzen	3
FC Union Cheb	0	Boby Brno	0
Banik Ostrava	2	Slovan Liberec	0
Viktoria Zizkov	5	Svit Zlin	1
Petra Drnovice	3	Ceske Budejovice	1
Sigma Olomouc	2	SK Hradec Kralove	0
Svarc Benesov	3	Bohemians Prague	4

TABLE

Sparta Praha	30	22	4	4	64	17	70
Slavia Praha	30	19	7	4	52	20	64
Boby Brno	30	15	9	6	52	27	54
Slovan Liberec	30	16	3	11	49	46	51
Viktoria Zizkov	30	15	4	11	61	38	49
Petra Drnovice	30	15	3	12	46	44	48
Ceske Budejovice	30	12	10	8	29	28	46
Sigma Olomouc	30	12	7	11	31	31	43

NORWEGIAN FIRST DIVISION TABLE

Rosenborg	10	9	1	0	35	9	28
Molde	10	7	1	2	27	14	22
Viking	10	6	1	3	25	11	19
Lillestroem	10	5	3	2	22	13	18
Kongsvinger	10	4	3	3	12	15	15
Hoedt	10	4	2	4	14	21	14
Start	10	4	1	5	18	16	13
VIF Fotball	10	5	0	5	12	17	13
Bodoe/Glimt	10	3	3	4	18	18	12
Tromsøe	10	3	2	5	15	18	11
Brann	10	3	2	5	14	19	11
Stabaek	10	3	1	6	13	16	10
Ham-Kam	10	1	2	7	8	27	5
Strindheim	10	1	2	7	8	27	5

Note: VIF Fotball deducted two points because of financial irregularities last season.

POLISH FIRST DIVISION
— June 14 —
Final Table

Sokol Pniewy	2	Lech Poznan	1
Legia Warszawa	2	Widzew Lodz	0
Stal Mielec	1	Petrochemia Plock	1
Hutnik Krakow	1	Pogon Szczecin	1
Warta Poznan	1	Zaglebie Lubin	3

Note: VIF Fotball deducted two points because of financial irregularities last season.

POLISH FIRST DIVISION
— June 14 —
Final Table

Sokol Pniewy	2	Lech Poznan	1
Legia Warszawa	2	Widzew Lodz	0
Stal Mielec	1	Petrochemia Plock	1
Hutnik Krakow	1	Pogon Szczecin	1
Warta Poznan	1	Zaglebie Lubin	3

GKS Katowice	3	Stal Stalowa Wola	0
Stomil Olsztyn	0	Rakow Czestochowa	1
LKS Lodz	4	Gornik Zabrze	1
Olimpia Poznan	1	Rakow Czestochowa	1

TABLE

Legia Warszawa	34	23	5	6	58	20	51
Widzew Lodz	34	17	11	6	47	25	45
GKS Katowice	34	16	10	8	45	27	42
Zaglebie Lubin	34	16	10	8	48	41	42
Gornik Zabrze	34	12	13	9	48	40	37
Lech Poznan	34	13	8	13	47	40	34
LKS Lodz	34	10	14	10	39	41	34
Pogon Szczecin	34	10	13	11	33	34	33
Hutnik Krakow	34	9	14	11	37	39	32
Sokol Pniewy	34	9	14	11	33	43	32
Stal Mielec	34	8	15	11	44	50	31
Olimpia Poznan	34	9	13	12	46	41	31
Rakow Czestochowa	34	9	13	12	31	43	31
Stomil Olsztyn	34	7	16	11	35	40	30
Petrochemia							

NEWS FROM AROUND THE GLOBE



JOINT BID FOR EURO CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Netherlands and Belgium are set to stage the European championship finals in the year 2000 after winning backing for their joint bid from UEFA's championship committee.

The Dutch and Belgians still need approval from the European soccer union's executive committee next month, but in the absence of other contenders that will be a formality. Both countries will qualify automatically for the tournament, the first to be staged by two nations.

The next championships will be held in England in 1996.

NORWICH SECURE FORMER STAR

Norwich City, relegated from the English Premier League this season, hopes to bounce back under the guidance of former player Martin O'Neill, who took over as manager last week.

The former Northern Ireland international midfielder, who helped Wycombe Wanderers from the obscurity of non-league soccer to division two in two seasons, has the tough task of reviving a team that slumped alarmingly in the Premier League standings in the second half of the season.

Norwich, which was handily placed at seventh towards the end of December, wound up with only two clubs below when the season ended and went down along with Crystal Palace, Leicester and Ipswich.

IRAQI'S READY FOR ATLANTA

Iraqi soccer authorities have expressed interest in taking part in next year's Atlanta Olympic Games, sources from Baghdad said last week.

The sources, quoting officials associated with the Iraqi football association, said the association has named 26 players and stepped up training in preparation for Olympic qualifying matches.

SORRY SPURS ANGER KLINSMANN

World Cup striker Juergen Klinsmann reacted angrily last week to an official Tottenham complaint about his recent transfer to Bayern Munich which could hold up his return to German soccer.

English Football Association (FA) officials confirmed that they had passed on a Tottenham letter

of complaint to world governing body FIFA about Klinsmann's departure from the English premier league club last month.

Tottenham is believed to want the German captain suspended until its problems with Bayern are solved.

But Klinsmann, who plans a return to Bundesliga action at the start of the new season in August,

British sources said the English club was unhappy with the way Klinsmann broke his two-year contract after a year and is also not satisfied with the financial aspect of the deal.

Tottenham is said to have understood that the 30-year-old player, who was very popular in England, could opt out of his contract only if he was desperately unhappy.

But Klinsmann said in a statement issued by his agent,

"It was crystal clear in the contract between Tottenham and me that I could leave the club after a year if I wanted — with no ifs or buts. The level of the transfer fee was just as clear."

Klinsmann signed a three-year deal with Bayern last month which starts on July 1. Tottenham was paid a \$A2.78 million transfer fee for the striker, who is expected to earn around \$A2.43 million a season.

SPURS SIGN KIT DEAL, SAZZM

Gerry Francis' spending potential was boosted by \$A5.57 million a year after Tottenham Hotspur signed a record-breaking kit deal with Pony.

Spurs, changing their home kit for the first time in two years, have signed a four-year deal with Pony thought to be worth around \$A22.29 million.

But funds for team-building will not necessarily be directed towards replacing Jürgen Klinsmann, with Spurs being linked with Dutch international midfielder Aaron Winter.

And centre-forward Teddy Sheringham picked England colleague Nicky Barmby as the man he wants as his partner up front next season.

Sheringham said: "I've been asked who would I like to play with now. Jürgen Klinsmann has left and my answer, from the whole of the Premier League, is Nicky Barmby."

FERGUSON SNUBS DERBY'S ATTEMPT AT BRUCE

Manchester United manager Alex Ferguson snubbed Derby's attempt to sign Steve Bruce as their new player-manager last week.



Dunga: The Brazilian ace left Germany for Japan without a word.

EX-ARSENAL BOSS CONSIDERS OFFERS

Former Arsenal manager George Graham, facing a misconduct charge from the Football Association over alleged illegal transfer payments, has revealed he was considering approaches by several clubs.

Graham, sacked by the Gunners when a Premier League inquiry revealed he received \$A945,120 from Norwegian agent Rune Hauge in deals involving Scandanavians Pal Lydersen and John Jensen, is anxious to clear his name as quickly as possible.

While Bruce has made little attempt to hide his managerial ambitions, he has become a firm favourite with the United fans since joining the club from Norwich in 1987.

Last summer, he signed a new three-year contract which tied him to Old Trafford until the end of 1997 and which would give him a testimonial season at the club.

INJUNCTION FOR PLEAT

David Pleat, who was appointed as the new manager of English premier league soccer club Sheffield Wednesday last week cannot now work for it after his old club Luton won a High Court injunction against him. Luton chairman David Kohler, angry over the compensation offered by Wednesday for Pleat, won the court case which bans Pleat from working for Wednesday until at least June 28 when the case goes back to court.

BATISTUTA STAYS UNTIL 1999

Argentine Gabriel Batistuta, leading scorer in Italy's Serie A last season, has signed a new contract that will keep him with Fiorentina until 1999.

"I'm happy to have committed myself to Fiorentina for what should be the prime years of my career," said Batistuta, 26.

"Now I want to win things. Our minimum aim for next season must be a place in Europe," said the Argentine international.

NAPOLI DEBT PROBLEM WORSENS

A watchdog body recommended last week that the Italian federation begin moves to put debt-ridden former champions Napoli into liquidation.

COVISOC, the organisation that oversees clubs' budgets on behalf of the federation, proposed the move for Napoli and seven lower division clubs with financial problems.

But it said that a decision on whether to allow the clubs to take

their place in the Italian league next season would be delayed until after the transfer market closed on July 12. Napoli, champions in 1987 and 1990 when Argentine Diego Maradona was their star, have short-term liabilities of 20 billion lire (\$A17.40 million) including unpaid players' salaries while their total debts are reportedly double that figure.

CLUMSY GROBBELAAR IN T.V. ADS

Controversial goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, on police bail after being questioned about match-fixing allegations, is set to star in a new TV commercial for supermarket chain Sainsbury's.

The supermarket aims to use the Southampton and former Liverpool soccer star to remind clumsy customers that Sainsbury's replaces goods broken in its stores or car parks. And the 37-year-old Zimbabwean international — whose name means clumsy in Afrikaans — was filmed dropping goods outside a store last week.

BENFICA WIN REPLAY

Benfica beat Sporting Lisbon 2-0 in their enforced replay of a Portuguese first division match last Wednesday.

Brazilian striker Edilson Ferreira netted both goals in the 12th and 31st minutes.

The Portuguese Soccer Federation had ordered the replay after receiving a complaint from Benfica that the referee showed their Argentine striker Claudio Caniggia a red card without first showing a second yellow card during the original fixture on April 30, which Sporting won 2-1.

YURAN TO FACE DEATH CHARGE

FC Porto's Ukrainian striker Sergei Yuran will be tried for involuntary homicide after the death of a motorist killed in a crash with the soccer player last November, according to media reports.

Portugal's public prosecutor decided to put Yuran on trial after the sole eyewitness in the crash — a taxi driver who had dropped out of sight — testified in a preliminary court hearing, the sports daily Record reported.

The taxi driver had taken the Russian international to his home at dawn last November 24 after his Mercedes limousine collided with a smaller Honda on a main boulevard in the northern city of Oporto.

The 35-year-old driver of the Honda died of multiple injuries soon after the accident, which catapulted

his car about 70m. The reports gave no details of the taxi driver's testimony owing to the secrecy of the hearing decreed by the prosecutor.

If found guilty, the striker could face a jail sentence. Media also speculated that the charge could be commuted to one less serious, such as leaving the scene of an accident.

INCE AND INTER AGREE

England and Manchester United midfielder Paul Ince has agreed financial terms to move to Italian soccer club Internazionale and expects to sign a contract soon, his lawyer said last week.

"Financial aspects have been agreed," lawyer Henry Bradman told a news conference. With a smiling but silent Ince beside him, Bradman answered "yes" when asked whether a contract would soon be signed.

But he said some personal matters needed to be resolved before the 28-year-old Englishman became an Inter player in a three-year deal expected to cost the Italian club around \$A13.92m.

"For us, it is as if he had already signed it (the contract)," Inter vice-president Gianmaria Visconti Di Modrone told journalists.

SOUNESS GETS MILLION DOLLAR PAYOUT

Former star Graeme Souness was awarded \$A1,686,150 damages over an English newspaper article which branded him a light-fisted "dirty rat".

The former Liverpool, Rangers, Sampdoria and Scotland player grinned with triumph and hugged his weeping second wife Karen after the unanimous jury awarded the fourth highest libel damages payout in English legal history following just two hours deliberation on the eighth day of an acrimonious hearing.

His first wife Danielle — who Souness's lawyer claimed had been used by The People newspaper in a "seedy, shoddy conspiracy" to knock him when he was at a professional low — was not in court. Publishers MGN Ltd, which denied libel and said the story was true, is now faced with a costs bill unofficially estimated at \$A562,050, making a total of \$A2.25 million bill for the case.

The taxi driver had taken the Russian international to his home at dawn last November 24 after his Mercedes limousine collided with a smaller Honda on a main boulevard in the northern city of Oporto. She also claimed that her ex-husband had refused to pay the boys' school fees and that she was living on handouts from her parents.



SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHEART —



RIO DE JANEIRO

Final stage

— June 12 —

Bangu	1	Entrerriense	1
Flamengo	1	Botafogo	0
Fluminense	2	Volta Redonda	0

TABLE

Flamengo	12	8	2	31	15	26	3	29
Fluminense	12	8	3	1	19	8	27	0
Botafogo	12	8	1	3	21	6	25	1
Vasco da Gama	11	4	4	3	16	10	16	1
Bangu	12	2	5	5	9	17	11	0
Volta Redonda	12	3	2	7	10	24	11	0
America	11	2	3	6	9	13	9	0
Entrerriense	12	1	2	9	5	27	5	0

SAO PAULO CHAMPIONSHIP

First stage

America/Rio Preto	1	Ferroviaria	0
Guarani	2	Rio Branco	2
Juventus	2	Ponte Preta	1
Novorizontino	1	Aracatuba	0
Palmeiras	3	Bragantino	0
Portuguesa	2	Sao Paulo	1
Santos	4	XV de Piracicaba	0
Uniao Sao Joao	1	Corinthians	0

TABLE

Portuguesa	30	16	10	4	47	29	58
Sao Paulo	30	15	9	6	45	27	54
Santos	30	13	11	6	49	30	50
Palmeiras	30	12	9	9	47	30	45
Guarani	30	12	9	9	40	36	45
Corinthians	30	10	12	8	42	32	42
Uniao Sao Joao	30	10	9	11	35	38	39
Aracatuba	30	11	5	14	30	41	38
Rio Branco	30	8	12	10	39	42	36
Juventus	30	9	9	12	28	33	36
America	30	7	14	9	26	32	35
Novorizontino	30	8	11	11	26	36	35
XV de Piracicaba	30	8	10	12	38	44	34
Ferroviaria	30	9	7	14	24	32	34
Bragantino	30	7	11	12	27	36	32
Ponte Preta	30	7	8	15	30	55	29

Note: Portuguesa, Sao Paulo, Santos, Palmeiras, Guarani, Corinthians and Uniao Sao Joao qualify for the second stage. Mogi Mirim also qualify as winners of the second division.

IN BRIEF...

Erwin "Platini" Sanchez, who plays for Portuguese club Boavista wont be available to play for Bolivia in the next Copa America... Sanchez opted for a long break to rest and to recuperate from a knee injury... Another star who's going to miss the Copa America is Real Madrid scoring machine Ivan "Bang Bang" Zamorano... The Spanish football league highest scorer decided to travel to New York with his girlfriend for a well deserved holiday... Brazilian goalkeeper Zetti, who played for the national team in the Challenge International Cup was a surprise omission for the Copa America... Coach Zagalo preferred Dida, Taffarel and Danrei... Argentine president Carlos Saul Menem expressed his satisfaction for Maradona's return to football... Unofficial sources indicated that former Argentine coach Alfio Basile, who recently resigned from his post as manager of Spanish club Atletico Madrid could guide Boca Juniors from January 1996... With only two rounds to go in the Argentine league second phase, Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata leads the competition with 27 points, one more than San Lorenzo... Gimnasia beat Argentinos Juniors 3-1 while San Lorenzo (Raul Blanco's team), lost 2-0 to Libertadores and Toyota Cup champion Velez Sarsfield... Velez is three points behind Gimnasia.... Paraguay won the "Paz del Chaco Cup", an annual event played between the Paraguayans and Bolivia... The "guaranies" beat Bolivia 4-3 on penalties... Meanwhile, in Caracas, Venezuela drew 0-0 with Peruvian champion Sporting Cristal, in a friendly international... The match was part of the Venezuelan's build up preparation for the Copa America... Venezuela suffered a severe blow when its star striker Stalin Rivas announced that we wont take part in the South American nations championship... Rivas decided to withdraw from the squad because of a disagreement with Venezuelan officials on money terms.

Brazil to Copa America without Romario & Bebeto

One of the most spectacular attacking duo, Romario and Bebeto, will be missing from the

Copa America, to be held in Uruguay from the 5th to the 23rd of July.

Instead, the talent and



Ronaldo: Young striker replacing the big boys.

Parreira keen on U.S. job

Brazilian World Cup coach Carlos Alberto Parreira is "keenly interested" in taking over the vacant US national team coaching position, US Soccer Federation executive director Hank Steinbrecher said. Parreira, fired by Spanish first division club Valencia last week, met with Steinbrecher for two days last week and said he was excited about the challenge of making soccer into a major US sport.

"He feels he can make a difference," Steinbrecher said. "He has said, at this point, money is not the most important thing in his life."

That makes the US team a realistic option. Parreira made \$US750,000 (\$A1,042,650) at Valencia but would likely have a US base salary of only \$US300,000 (\$A417,060).

"It was really positive," Steinbrecher said of the meeting. "He is certainly keenly interested in the position and we are certainly interested in continuing to talk to him about it."

Bora Milutinovic was fired from the US national team post in April.

Nine yellows, one red in bitter match

Flamengo went top of the Rio de Janeiro championship on June 12 after beating Botafogo 1-0 in a bitter match riddled with nine cautions and one red card.

Five players were sent off when the sides met earlier in the competition and the feud continued with 35 fouls in the first half alone.

Flamengo striker Romario made his comeback less than three weeks after surgery on his left knee and inadvertently set up his team's second-half winner.

He completely miss-hit an attempted shot but the ball ran kindly to fellow striker Savio, who scored from close range to put Flamengo two points ahead of Fluminense in the eight-team final stage with two games left.

Flamengo goalkeeper Roger made several fine saves and was saved twice by the woodwork.

Botafogo midfielder Sergio Manoel was ordered off for a second bookable offence.

Gimnasia beat Argentinos Juniors 3-1 while San Lorenzo (Raul Blanco's team), lost 2-0 to Libertadores and Toyota Cup champion Velez Sarsfield... Velez is three points behind Gimnasia.... Paraguay won the "Paz del Chaco Cup", an annual event played between the Paraguayans and Bolivia... The "guaranies" beat Bolivia 4-3 on penalties... Meanwhile, in Caracas, Venezuela drew 0-0 with Peruvian champion Sporting Cristal, in a friendly international... The match was part of the Venezuelan's build up preparation for the Copa America... Venezuela suffered a severe blow when its star striker Stalin Rivas announced that we wont take part in the South American nations championship... Rivas decided to withdraw from the squad because of a disagreement with Venezuelan officials on money terms.

skills of sensational young striker Ronaldo who plays for Dutch club PSV Eindhoven and Flamengos' prolific scorer, Edmundo, will carry the responsibility of scoring goals for the world champions.

The Brazilians are in group B, together with Colombia, Peru and Ecuador, and are strong favourites to win the Cup.

The other World Cup campaigners to miss the squad are Marcio Santos and the veteran Branco.

Brazilian coach Mario Zagalo is confident his team will win the tournament and this team will be the basis for the one that will compete in the Atlanta Olympic Games.

The following is the full Brazilian squad for the Copa America:

Goalkeepers: Taffarel (Atletico Mineiro), Danrei (Gremio) and Dida (Cruzeiro).

Defenders: Jorginho (Kashima Antlers, Japan), Rodrigo (Bayern Leverkusen, Germany), Roberto Carlos (Palmeiras), Aldair (AS Roma, Italy), Andre Cruz (Napoli, Italy),

PERUVIANS POISONED

Fifteen members of the Peruvian soccer squad spent 24 hours in hospital on June 12 suffering from food poisoning caused by a chicken salad, team sources said.

Victims of a meal at the squad's training camp included coach Miguel Company and striker Ronaldo Baroni, sources said. The squad is preparing for next month's Copa America in Uruguay and training was due to resume early last week.

Carlos "Pibe" Valderrama, the captain of Junior was one of the happiest men and was full of praise for his fellow players.

"We deserved to win the

Ronaldao (Shimizu Pulse, Japan), and Narciso (Santos).

Midfielders: Dunga (Stuttgart, Germany), Leonardo (Kashima Antlers, Japan), Zinho (Yokohama Flugels, Japan), Cesar Sampayo (Yokohama Flugels, Japan), Leandro (Vasco da Gama), Juninho (Sao Paulo), and Souza (Corinthians).

Strikers: Ronaldo (PSV Eindhoven, Holland), Edmundo (Flamengo), Savio (Flamengo) and Tullio (Botafogo).

Brazil will make its Copa America debut against Ecuador on Friday, July 7, playing its second qualifying match against Peru on July 10 and the last one, with Colombia, on July 13.

Group B will be played in the city of Rivera, 500 kilometres North of Montevideo, and on the border with Brazil.



Aldair: Part of Brazil's solid defence.

Junior champs of Colombia

Junior of Barranquilla, despite its 3-1 defeat against Independiente Santa Fe, won the Colombian national football league for the fourth time in its history and qualified for the 1996 edition of the Libertadores Cup, the major club championship in South America.

America of Cali, once one of the strongest clubs in the continent, finished in second spot and also qualified for the Libertadores Cup.

Carlos "Pibe" Valderrama, the captain of Junior was one of the happiest men and was full of praise for his fellow players.

"We deserved to win the

is with the heart, I don't need to sign a piece of paper to join in with the group and train with the team," he said.

Meanwhile, Maradona said the legendary Pele should take over as president of FIFA from fellow Brazilian Joao Havelange, whose "cycle has finished."

Maradona said on Argentine television that with Pele everything would be different "because a man would take over who knows about football and who would defend players."

"And he would also work towards and speed up the formation of a union for players," said the former Argentine captain, referring to one of his long-held dreams.

DIEGO WANTS TO PLAY FOR ARGENTINA

Disgraced Argentina legend Diego Maradona said last week he would like another chance to play for his country after his ban expired and added he still had something to offer the national side.

"What comes my way will be welcome and I would thank God. But I'm not looking for it. I know the young ones have to have their chance, but us old guys can contribute a lot as well," Maradona told reporters at Boca Juniors' training ground on the outskirts of Buenos Aires.

Now 34 and with a tendency to a spreading waist line, Maradona said he was in great shape and could start training with Boca players even before he signs a contract.

"My contract with Boca



SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHEART —



Club Champions

THE FULL LIST...

CHILE

HISTORICAL RECORD

YEAR	CHAMPION
1933	MAGALLANES
1934	MAGALLANES
1935	MAGALLANES
1936	AUDAX ITALIANO
1937	COLO COLO
1938	MAGALLANES
1939	COLO COLO
1940	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE
1941	COLO COLO
1942	SANTIAGO MORNING
1943	UNION ESPAÑOLA
1944	COLO COLO
1945	GREEN CROSS
1946	AUDAX ITALIANO
1947	COLO COLO
1948	AUDAX ITALIANO
1949	UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA
1950	EVERTON
1951	UNION ESPAÑOLA
1952	EVERTON
1953	COLO COLO
1954	UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA
1955	PALESTINO
1956	COLO COLO
1957	AUDAX ITALIANO
1958	WANDERERS
1959	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE
1960	COLO COLO
1961	UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA
1962	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE
1963	COLO COLO
1964	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE
1965	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE
1966	UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA
1967	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE
1968	WANDERERS
1969	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE
1970	COLO COLO
1971	SAN FELIPE
1972	COLO COLO
1973	UNION ESPAÑOLA
1974	HUACHIPATO
1975	UNION ESPAÑOLA
1976	EVERTON
1977	UNION ESPAÑOLA
1978	PALESTINO
1979	COLO COLO
1980	COBRELOA
1981	COLO COLO
1982	COBRELOA
1983	COLO COLO
1984	UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA
1985	COBRELOA
1986	COLO COLO
1987	UNIVERSIDAD CATOLICA
1988	COBRELOA
1989	COLO COLO
1990	COLO COLO
1991	COLO COLO
1992	COBRELOA
1993	COLO COLO
1994	UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE

PERU

HISTORICAL RECORD

YEAR	CHAMPION
1926	SPORT PROGRESO
1927	ALIANZA LIMA
1928	ALIANZA LIMA
1929	UNIVERSITARIO
1930	ATLETICO CHALACO
1931	ALIANZA LIMA
1932	ALIANZA LIMA
1933	ALIANZA LIMA
1934	UNIVERSITARIO
1935	SPORT BOYS
1936	Not disputed
1937	SPORT BOYS
1938	DEPORTIVO MUNICIPAL
1939	UNIVERSITARIO
1940	DEPORTIVO MUNICIPAL
1941	UNIVERSITARIO
1942	SPORT BOYS
1943	DEPORTIVO MUNICIPAL
1944	MARISCAL SUCRE
1945	UNIVERSITARIO
1946	UNIVERSITARIO
1947	ATLETICO CHALACO
1948	ALIANZA LIMA
1949	UNIVERSITARIO
1950	DEPORTIVO MUNICIPAL
1951	SPORT BOYS
1952	ALIANZA LIMA
1953	MARISCAL SUCRE
1954	ALIANZA LIMA
1955	ALIANZA LIMA
1956	SPORTING CRISTAL
1957	CENTRO IQUEÑO
1958	SPORT BOYS
1959	UNIVERSITARIO
1960	UNIVERSITARIO
1961	SPORTING CRISTAL
1962	ALIANZA LIMA
1963	ALIANZA LIMA
1964	UNIVERSITARIO
1965	ALIANZA LIMA
1966	UNIVERSITARIO
1967	UNIVERSITARIO
1968	SPORTING CRISTAL
1969	UNIVERSITARIO
1970	SPORTING CRISTAL
1971	UNIVERSITARIO
1972	SPORTING CRISTAL
1973	DEFENSOR LIMA
1974	UNIVERSITARIO
1975	ALIANZA LIMA
1976	UNION HUARAL
1977	ALIANZA LIMA
1978	ALIANZA LIMA
1979	SPORTING CRISTAL
1980	SPORTING CRISTAL
1981	MARIANO MELCAR
1982	UNIVERSITARIO
1983	SPORTING CRISTAL
1984	SPORT BOYS
1985	UNIVERSITARIO
1986	SAN AGUSTIN
1987	UNIVERSITARIO
1988	SPORTING CRISTAL
1989	UNION HUARAL
1990	UNIVERSITARIO
1991	SPORTING CRISTAL
1992	UNIVERSITARIO
1993	UNIVERSITARIO
1994	SPORTING CRISTAL

COLOMBIA

HISTORICAL RECORD

YEAR	CHAMPION
1948	INDEPENDIENTE
1949	SANTA FE
1950	MILLONARIOS
1951	ONCE CALDAS
1952	MILLONARIOS
1953	MILLONARIOS
1954	ATLETICO
1955	NACIONAL
1956	INDEPENDIENTE
1957	MEDELLIN
1958	INDEPENDIENTE
1959	SANTA FE
1960	MILLONARIOS
1961	INDEPENDIENTE
1962	MILLONARIOS
1963	MILLONARIOS
1964	MILLONARIOS
1965	DEPORTIVO CALI
1966	INDEPENDIENTE
1967	SANTA FE
1968	DEPORTIVO CALI
1969	DEPORTIVO CALI
1970	DEPORTIVO CALI
1971	INDEPENDIENTE
1972	SANTA FE
1973	ATLETICO
1974	DEPORTIVO CALI
1975	INDEPENDIENTE
1976	ATLETICO
1977	NACIONAL
1978	MILLONARIOS
1979	AMERICA
1980	JUNIOR
1981	ATLETICO
1982	AMERICA
1983	AMERICA
1984	AMERICA
1985	AMERICA
1986	AMERICA
1987	MILLONARIOS
1988	MILLONARIOS
1989	NO FINALIZO/UNFINISHED
1990	AMERICA
1991	ATLETICO
1992	NACIONAL
1993	JUNIOR
1994	ATLETICO

BRAZIL

YEAR	CHAMPION
1971	ATLETICO MINEIRO
1972	PALMEIRAS
1973	PALMEIRAS
1974	VASCO DA GAMA
1975	INTERNACIONAL
1976	INTERNACIONAL
1977	SAO PAULO
1978	GUARANI
1979	INTERNACIONAL
1980	FLAMENGO
1981	CREMIO
1982	FLAMENGO
1983	FLAMENGO
1984	FLAMENGO
1985	FLAMENGO
1986	FLAMENGO
1987	FLAMENGO
1988	FLAMENGO
1989	FLAMENGO
1990	FLAMENGO
1991	FLAMENGO
1992	FLAMENGO
1993	FLAMENGO
1994	FLAMENGO

ECUADOR

YEAR	CHAMPION
1957	EMELEC
1960	BARCELONA
1961	EMELEC
1962	EVEREST
1963	BARCELONA
1964	DEP. QUITO
1965	EMELEC
1966	BARCELONA
1967	EL NACIONAL
1968	DEP. QUITO
1969	LDU-QUITO
1970	BARCELONA
1971	BARCELONA
1972	EMELEC
1973	EL NACIONAL
1974	LDU-QUITO
1975	LDU-QUITO
1976	EL NACIONAL
1977	EL NACIONAL
1978	EMELEC
1979	EMELEC
1980	BARCELONA
1981	EMELEC
1982	EL NACIONAL
1983	EL NACIONAL
1984	EL NACIONAL
1985	BARCELONA
1986	EL NACIONAL
1987	BARCELONA
1988	EMELEC
1989	BARCELONA
1990	LDU-QUITO
1991	BARCELONA
1992	EL NACIONAL
1993	EMELEC
1994	EMELEC

NEXT WEEK: VENEZUELA, ARGENTINA, PARAGUAY.

NEXT WEEK: BOLIVIA, URUGUAY.

BRAZIL'S NEW GENERATION

For a new generation of Brazilian soccer stars, the future has arrived.

A year after winning a record fourth World Cup, Brazil is deep into a rebuilding program with an eye to next year's Atlanta Olympics and the 1998 World Cup in France.

But the new-look team hasn't missed a beat. Exit Bebeto and Romario, enter Edmundo and Juninho. And the Brazilian soccer machine just keeps rolling.

In its first international test, Brazil easily handled Sweden, Japan and host England to win the International Challenge. In the final game, the Brazilians put away England 3-1 in Wembley stadium.

"We are creating a winning tradition

UK SOCCER SUPPORTERS DOWNUNDER



I would like to add my thanks to Gary Williams, Barry Greenwood and Richard Kreider for not only bringing a team out here again with the definite hopes of another tour next year, but for their warmth, hospitality and friendship shown towards us over the last couple of years. The UKSSD wishes them the very best for the future and I look forward to meeting up with the guys again in the not too distant future. It's always a pleasure and sincere thanks again. Micky Brock.

◆◆◆

Don't forget to join the ASSOCIATION of FOOTBALL SUPPORTERS in AUSTRALIA (AFSA). This is the club you've been waiting for and at just \$10 for the next 18 months, it is probably the cheapest supporters club around. It matters not if you support Arsenal, Man Utd, Rangers, Celtic or Juventus, Bayern Munich or Barcelona, this is the club for you.

Membership affords you the luxury of cheaper merchandise, books, videos and T-shirts etc PLUS discount prices at the SPORTS FACTORY in Fairfield (owned by former Socceroo great Ray Richards). How do you join? Simply send ONE PASSPORT SIZED PHOTOGRAPH of yourself, the team you support and details of address etc. accompanied by your cheques/money orders (made payable to: UKSSD please) — PO BOX 56, KINGSWAY WEST, NSW 2208.

It does not matter if you don't live in NSW as this is a club for everyone, everywhere. For full details

**! QUICK !
ONE-TWOS**

WITH
MICKY BROCK

of the UK Soccer Supporters Downunder

PO Box 56, KINGSWAY WEST, NSW 2208
TEL & FAX: (02) 554-3888

of what you can expect you can ring on 0055 26612 information line or FAX us on (02) 554 3888 or just drop us a line at the above address.

There is something here for everyone so take full advantage of membership quickly to enjoy the full benefits.

ONLY CARD HOLDERS can command the reduced prices and gain cheaper or free admission to organised events.

The cost of membership is the same for everyone but at \$10 per year (18 months in this offer) which runs from January 1st to December 31st, it's very little for a great deal.

Membership is now open and please remember: The UKSSD is a "non-profit" making organisation and anyone can become a member of AFSA as it concerns only football supporters and NOT defined countries or backgrounds, it's for us all in Australia.

The game knows no boundaries and neither do we!

The following videos are now available for the one price of \$47.95* each (AFSA members \$45 each) 1994/95 Season Highlights* and The Pain and the Glory* videos: Aston Villa, Chelsea, Everton, Leeds Utd, Liverpool, Manchester Utd, Newcastle Utd, Nottingham Forest and Tottenham.

1994/95 season highlights only: Blackburn Rovers, Crystal Palace, Derby County. The Pain and the Glory video only: Arsenal, QPR, Sheffield Wednesday, Southampton and West Ham Utd.

There are many new titles available including Scottish videos and a host of new books too. Our catalogues are available from the usual address but check out these prices.

The following books are available from September but if you order now you can save an extra \$5 per item: Rothmans Football Yearbook 1995/96 \$65, Guinness Soccer Who's Who 9th Edition \$31, Endsleigh Football

Yearbook 1996 \$65, Supporters Guide to Premier and Football League clubs 1996, Scottish Football, Non-league Football, Welsh Football and The Supporters Guide to Football programmes \$21 each. All five books for \$100, News of the World Football Annual and Playfair Football Annual \$21 each.

The following are due for release in September also but are 25-year records and cover 1970-1995: Aston Villa, Celtic, Derby County, Everton, Liverpool, Manchester Utd, Newcastle Utd and Nottingham Forest. All are priced at \$22 each. These prices can only remain until July 31st 1995 when they WILL rise by \$5 per book.

Once again there are many new titles to choose from but the only way to find out is to send for a catalogue today. (AFSA members can deduct a further \$1.00 from the price of the books mentioned here).

These are the cheapest prices you are likely to find and in complete harmony with our policy of providing the cheapest, best and genuine article.

Check wherever you like but we doubt you'll find them cheaper in Australia!

◆◆◆
DON'T FORGET, you now only have two more weeks to send in your entries for our competition: WHO

SOUTHAMPTON'S LEADING GOALSCORER LAST SEASON? The prize is a genuine replica 1994/95 season Southampton shirt from our good friend Mark at Eurokit.

Answer to: Matt Le Tissier Competition at the usual address. Ask for a price list too and save an extra 45c on postage.

BY MICHAEL ALMOND

Along with many other "Hammer's" fans I have been waiting months for the lads to arrive, ever since the tour was announced.

The venue was the Gabbie Stadium, home of Blacktown City Soccer Club on a cold, wet, miserable Tuesday night but for everyone gathered there, which was a considerable amount, it would not have mattered if it was raining "cats and dogs" because the night was for a very important training session for the guys and our first glimpse of them.

The following evening they are to play the Olyroos at Marconi Stadium before heading up to Brisbane for their final tour match.

As it happens, Micky Brock and I are soon chatting with the players and officials but the first person I spoke to was none other than Steve Bacon.

Steve WHO? Steve has been West Ham's official photographer for some 24 years or so and also works for the local paper in the area called the Newham Recorder. He is a bit of a legend, even at away games, when the chant goes up from the Hammers supporters — Stevie Bacon, Stevie Bacon — as he trundles his considerable frame around the pitch as he prepares to take up his "posse" with all the other elite snappers.

Some of the more interesting points to arise out of our conversation include the ongoing injuries to key players from the side throughout the past season

and beyond even to the extent of the current tour. West Ham did tour with a depleted squad but not through choice as Bishop (hernia), Boere (Knee operations) were hospitalised straight after the season finished in England and an Alvin Martin injury that even stopped him travelling over.

This coupled with the problems concerning Tony Cottee's injury that prevented him from playing on the tour, was not by way of "short changing" the Australian public (as some have suggested) but is a fact of footballing life unfortunately. (I can add here that Tony was very disappointed at not being able to play out here and would have given anything to do the boots and get on the pitch. A real gentleman — Micky).

Taking everything into consideration, to finish the English season by losing only one game in 10 was a brilliant effort, especially as so many players were playing through the pain barrier and carrying knocks, and dare I say that next year it may amount to "top six" form!

Whilst I was engaged in conversation with the "Newham legend", Micky decided to have a chat with Tony Cottee and would you believe — he couldn't help himself — asked him why he chose Everton instead of his beloved Arsenal. Even I could have answered that one — he wanted to play for a big club, enough said! Of course Mr Cottee was

not to be disappointed as groups of them were ushered into the restaurant so they could get the prized signatures from the players, big smiles on their faces as they departed, passing another group on their way in. You can't buy memories like that!

Everybody was in

agreement that the entire evening had been a huge

success and plaudits must go not only to the West

The West

more diplomatic and said that: "It was touch and go who I would sign for and I was very lucky to have two such big clubs in for me but at the end of the day you have to look at the financial state and of course that played a part and eventually I chose Everton."

The next question was whether he had any regrets about leaving Everton now that they were in the FA Cup final? The answer: "No not at all. There's nothing to say that they'd be in the final if I was still there or even have won it with me in the team, so good luck to them." This answer speaks volumes about Tony Cottee the person, good on yer Tony!

When the session was over the players and officials of West Ham were invited back to Blacktown City's excellent restaurant within the club. Both Micky and I joined some of the players at the bar whilst outside a not inconsiderable crowd had gathered in the club foyer hoping to catch a close up glimpse of the players and obtain those all important autographs. The youngsters were not to be disappointed as groups of them were ushered into the restaurant so they could get the prized signatures from the players, big smiles on their faces as they departed, passing another group on their way in. You can't buy memories like that!

Whilst I was engaged in conversation with the "Newham legend", Micky decided to have a chat with Tony Cottee and would you believe — he couldn't help himself — asked him why he chose Everton instead of his beloved Arsenal. Even I could have answered that one — he wanted to play for a big club, enough said! Of course Mr Cottee was

bulk price offered to us and without it cannot apply. The book costs \$20 and that includes Airmail postage from the UK and Bank fees in Australia (exchange rate fee).

This aside though I still maintain that WSC is about the best "all round" fanzine on the market and should be read by all. Definitely highly recommended as there really is something there for everyone.

◆◆◆

Two weeks ago we told you about the fantastic new book out in the UK called: "THIS SUPPORTING LIFE" which we can get sent over from the UK. We have not received enough interest at this stage to send over for copies at a reasonable price and should this remain the case at the end of the month, all monies will be returned to the senders.

We need around 50 interested parties to get the

FANZINE REVIEW

BY MICKY BROCK

WHEN SATURDAY COMES

(General)

The "big gun" of the fanzine movement in the UK and a front-runner in many eyes for actually being responsible for the whole thing. This may be a rather strong claim as no-one really knows the answer to that with any honesty at all but a "big gun" all the same.

WSC is a monthly publication of some 40 A4 pages (some in colour) that has been around for many, many years now. Some have claimed that it's become "too mainstream" an "establishment".

If this is the case it's still way ahead of most other

types of fanzine/magazine doing the rounds. Admittedly it carries a lot more "ads" these days but I always feel that this is because its circulation has made it a viable proposition for the companies involved (as it is when we can offer you items etc down here). It's the same as "fairweather supporters" who bemoan their team losing a game except it's in a parallel universe where everyone bemoans the fact the magazine has become successful!

However, the fact remains that WSC is the "Godfather" of fanzines and as such is of a very high standard of publication with superb reproduction of print, photographs etc. Articles are extremely well written for the most part and the letters page has a few interesting comments coming out of it.

This fanzine is amongst the leaders in "having a go" at the football world from

the fans perspective, the worries, the moans, the standards of grounds, anti-racism movement and the Criminal Justice Bill to name but a few. They also champion the causes of many other topics too.

Not only do they cover the UK (not just English) game but have branched out into some of the other European leagues and even give brief mentions to South American sides. This does not run to a "results service" as much but carries many of the major stories concerning the players, crowds etc that other publications do not mention. Most are factual but watch out for a little "embellishment" shall we say?

The humour within the pages is fast, furious and prolific. This extends to articles, cartoons, newspaper clippings and so on.

Generally of a high standard remembering that

this is aimed at "adults" and not specifically minors so a wee bit of course language can creep in here and there but this does not lend itself to detract from the overall product.

Covers reviews of just about everything from books to games, videos, fanzines and "the press"! The annual WSC Questionnaire is a joy to read and the results are often hilarious in themselves without the need for added humour.

All in all, WSC is about as complete an article from the independent football movement as you are likely to read. It has it all and a whole lot more besides. Anyone who could turn around after reading a copy and say there was "nothing of interest" in it for them obviously does not know about the game or even has the slightest interest in it and believe me there are a few out there and some in very

high places within the game! (It's the same the world over).

WSC is available from: When Saturday Comes Merchandise/Subscriptions, 4th floor, 2 Pear Tree Court, London EC1R-ODS. An annual subscription costs 25 quid and a two yearly at 49 quid. Back issues are available from the above address.

I would give this a 10 out of 10 rating but unfortunately cannot for a very good reason. The copies I have were given to me by Bill Chapman — NSW Man. City Rep — on his return from the UK in January. This means that the copies for review are somewhat dated and therefore may have changed in appearance, style, content etc. The editors of WSC were contacted by me but never replied and as all know, the fanzine section works on "first in, best dressed" and

for the ones who have NOT sent over copies for review I cannot publish details obviously. We never have published details of fanzines not seen and I never will.

This aside though I still maintain that WSC is about the best "all round" fanzine on the market and should be read by all. Definitely highly recommended as there really is something there for everyone.

◆◆◆

Two weeks ago we told you about the fantastic new book out in the UK called: "THIS SUPPORTING LIFE" which we can get sent over from the UK. We have not received enough interest at this stage to send over for copies at a reasonable price and should this remain the case at the end of the month, all monies will be returned to the senders.

We need around 50 interested parties to get the

UK SOCCER SUPPORTERS DOWN UNDER



Ham tour - a fan's view

Ham party but also to Blacktown City FC for organising the whole event. Special thanks from Micky and I go to Don, Bob and Jeff for making us most welcome (as usual!) Thanks fellas.

**WEDNESDAY
24TH MAY 1995
MARCONI STADIUM**

Match night! After seven years of waiting to see my team in action again it's finally come around to kick-off time. A crowd of around 6,000 has braved the temperate weather and is waiting in anticipation of a thrilling match. As the game progresses it becomes very obvious that both teams want to win this one desperately.

In the opening couple of minutes the Olyroos could have, indeed should have!, opened the scoring but poor finishing and superb defending denied them...thank God!

By the time the initial "sussing out" period by both teams was over, West Ham emerged as the greater threat with their long-range efforts on goal only to be thwarted by the antics of the excellent Olyroo 'keeper — Juric. As the half-time beckoned, the Hammers can consider themselves unlucky not to be in front, with Allen (himself carrying an injury that prevented him from finishing the match) and Hutchison showing plenty of commitment up front whilst at the back the tireless efforts of Tim Breacker and captain Stevie Potts along with Brown were denying the



West Ham's Tim Breacker and Victoria's Kevin Muscat fight for the ball.

lively Olyroo attackers.

As the teams take the field for the second-half it was great to hear the old shout of "C'mon you Irons" ringing around the ground (on the odd occasion the

more famous "I'm forever blowing bubbles" could be heard) but to be fair, there is equal support for the young Australian Lion's as a counter cheer of "C'mon you Aussies" strikes up

from all parts of the stadium. Back to the game and it develops into a similar pattern as the previous half with West Ham pressing strongly and the Olyroos trying to catch

them on the break. At times they almost succeeded when it seemed almost easier to score. During the interval West Ham had replaced 'keeper Sealey with a young American goalie by the

name of Feuer who managed to look surprisingly uncomfortable — considering his enormous height — when attempting to deal with high balls/crosses in the area but perhaps he was just having an "off-night"...I'd like to think so at any rate.

Unlike Feuer, the Olyroos 'keeper was performing heroics in their goal down at the other end of the park and really kept the side in the match at times after denying the Hammers time and time again with some significant saves and a bit of good old fashioned luck although you generate your own luck when you're playing in that type of form. However, he was finally beaten by McPherson, who had come on to replace the injured Allen, a strike that fairly flew into the roof of the net and for the first time in the game, giving the 'keeper no chance at all. As stated before, if it had not been for the Olyroos 'keeper, West Ham would have won by four or five clear goals and credit must go where it's due.

Overall it was a good competitive match with the Olyroo 'keeper — not surprisingly — taking the "Man of the Match" award and deservedly so. I was not the only one impressed by the standard of the young Australian stars as all of the West Ham people I spoke to after the game were of the same opinion...football in this country is starting to make serious inroads into the world scene.

Whilst it would be lovely to be in this position, I personally would not want it if it came at the expense of our Youth Training Programme because we would lose that tremendous "club affinity" one has when coming through the ranks as it were.

To finish, all of the players and club officials expressed their thanks to everyone concerned in making this inaugural tour such a huge success and let's hope they will return soon.

were very open and hospitable to everyone and answered the inevitable barrage of questions from the herds of supporters who had gathered in the auditorium at the Marconi club. Once again West Ham confirmed that they really are "the family club."

It was with great pleasure that I was able to chat with Harry Redknapp who only arrived in Australia the day before due to an illness with his wife. (We would like to take this opportunity to wish the good lady a complete and speedy recovery — Brockie) and Frank Lampard, the Manager and Ast Manager respectively. After these conversations my feelings about the Premiership were confirmed. Clubs like West Ham as opposed to Manchester United and Blackburn Rovers and the like, will find it increasingly difficult to maintain their status as "Top clubs". The main reason being, and the most obvious of course, is the seemingly endless supply of cash that the so called "big six" clubs have at their disposal.

Whilst it would be lovely to be in this position, I personally would not want it if it came at the expense of our Youth Training Programme because we would lose that tremendous "club affinity" one has when coming through the ranks as it were.

To finish, all of the players and club officials expressed their thanks to everyone concerned in making this inaugural tour such a huge success and let's hope they will return soon.

Lion's Den aching success

YOUR FAVOURITE CLUB
By Stuart Jones

Millwall



Their previous ground at East Ferry Road saw the side make the semi's of the FA Cup in 1900/01. In their time at Millwall Park Millwall again made the semi's of the FA Cup, losing 1-2 to Derby in 1903.

In 1910 the Den became Millwall's home ground. The stature of their new

ground saw the Den host an England match against Wales in 1911. In 1920 Millwall left the southern League for the new Division Three. They remained in Division Three South until 1928, when they took the Division title by ten points. In 1927/28 saw the side score 127

goals. Early on in the season they beat both Torquay and Coventry 9-1 inside 10 weeks.

In 1932 Millwall recorded their largest loss, 1-8 to Plymouth. In 1934 saw the side relegated back to Division Three South. In 1936/37, despite their lowly league position, the club

made the semi's of the FA Cup again, losing to Sunderland 1-2. The fifth round win over Derby had seen a ground record 28,672 people witness the match at the Den. That 1936/37 season also saw Millwall win the Division Three South knock out cup.

In 1938 they won Division Three South by one point over Bristol City. A 5-1 away win on the last day conformed the

championship. When WWII broke out Millwall were in Division Two. The war saw the Den badly damaged. It was only fully restored around the mid-1950s.

During that time they had again dropped to Division Three South (in 1948). In 1958 the club came second last and so were put into the new Division Four. In 1960/61 saw Peter Burridge scored 36 league goals for the club (a total of 39). The following season the side won Division Four by a point, a 2-2 away draw with Barrow in their last game enough to take the title.

Millwall won promotion to Division Two in 1966 after coming runners-up in 1965/66. They remained

LEAGUE HONOURS

NICKNAME:	The Lions
HONOURS:	Division Two: 1987/88 Division Three South: 1927/28, 1937/38 Division Three South Cup: 1936/37
GROUND:	Division Four: 1961/62 The New Den, London, SE16.

there until 1975. In 1973/74 the club made the fifth round of the League Cup, a performance repeated in 1976/77 and 1994/95. In 1975 Millwall were relegated but bounced straight back up by finishing third in Division Three. In 1979 the Lions were relegated once again and remained in Division Three until 1985 when they finished runners-up to Bradford City.

In 1988 Millwall won their first Division Two title and so played in the top flight for the first time in their history. They came ninth in 1988/89, their highest ever finishing position. The following season they were relegated. In 1990/91 Millwall lost in the play offs to Brighton.

In 1993/94 Millwall came third but had another unsuccessful play-off campaign and so remained in Division Two.

Millwall's New Den is a marvellous all-seater stadium in London. The record attendance at the new ground is 20,093 (10.01.94 versus Arsenal in the FA Cup). The club have high hopes of playing in the top flight again, as they did for two seasons in the late 1980s.

'6 FROM 38 POOLS'

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 517

SAT. 24TH JUNE, 1995

NSW DIV. 1	LIVERPOOL	CENTRAL COAST	1
STH MINOTAUR	FAIRFIELD	2	
* COLO COLO	UNIVERSITY	3	
+ PROSPECT UTD	GLADESVILLE	4	
+ CLARINDA	BENT. GREENS	5	
ALTONA CITY	SPRIGNVALE W.	6	
CLIFTON HILL	CHELSEA	7	
E. RICHMOND	E. BRUNS. R.	8	
MOORABBIN	RINGWOOD C.	9	
MOOROOLBARK	REGENT	10	
NUNAWADING C.	BELL PARK	11	
WAVERLEY	EAST ALTONA	12	
ELTHAM UTD	STH CAUFIELD	13	
FITZROY CITY	BANYULE	14	
FRANKSTON	SUNBURY UTD	15	
SEAFORD UTD	SANDRINGHAM	16	
STH DANDENONG	PASCOE VALE	17	
WESTVALE	KEILOR EAGLES	18	
BRIGHTON	CRANBOURNE	19	
GEELONG	DOVETON	20	
STH SPRINGVALE	LANGWARRIN	21	
STH WANTIRNA	MONBULK	22	
SUN HEIGHTS	STONNINGTON	23	
WILLIAMSTOWN	CORIO	24	
BAYSWATER	INGLEWOOD	25	
FREMANTLE C.	PERTH	26	
SORRENTO	ATHENA	27	
STIRLING P.	STIRLING LIONS	28	
CAMPBELLTOWN	BLUE EAGLES	29	
CROYDON	WOODVILLE	30	
PORT LION	ADELAIDE R.	31	
SALISBURY	MODBURY	32	
ANNERLEY	GOODNA	33	
THE GAP	CAPALABA	34	
LOGANHOLME	WESTERN SUBS.	35	
OXLEY UTD	IPSWICH	36	
STHSIDE EAGLES	DARRA	37	
SOUTH STAR	SAMFORD	38	

RESERVE MATCHES

WEST. AUSTRALIA DIVISION 2	ASHFIELD	DIANELLA	39
BASSENDEAN	BALCATTIA	40	
COCKBURN	KINGSWAY	41	
MELVILLE	S. VARDAR	42	
MORLEY	ROCKINGHAM	43	
SOUTHSIDE	NORTH PERTH	44	
WANNEROO	NORTH LAKE	45	
VASTO S.	UNIVERSITY	46	
BALGA	QUEENS PK	47	
ARMADALE PK	JOONDALUP	48	
WEST YUGAL	BUNBURY UTD	49	
CUMBERLAND	OLYMPIANS	50	
ENFIELD	ELIZABETH	51	
NOARLUNGA	PLYMPTON	52	
PARA HILLS	SEAFORD	53	
W. ADELAIDE	W.T. BIRKALLA	54	
BURNIE	DEVONPORT	55	
ST LEONARDS	LAUNCESTON	56	
ULVERSTONE	GEORGETOWN	57	
WESTERN SUBS	KNIGHTS	58	

* NEW SOUTH WALES DIVISION 2

+ NEW SOUTH WALES DIVISION 3

VICTORIA STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 1

\$ SOUTH AUSTRALIA AMATEUR LEAGUE DIVISION 1

GET YOUR POOLS IN

Don't forget
Pools Quick Pick

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 516
SAT. 17TH JUNE, 1995

*	MT PRITCHARD	HILLS UTD	1	1-2
BATHURST	GRANVILLE G.	2	6-2	
ST JOHNS PK	CONCORD	3	0-2	
SPORT. M/VILLE	PROSPECT UTD	4	2-1	
CLARINDA	OAKLEIGH	5	1-0	
BELL PARK	WAVERLEY	6	2-0	
CHELSEA	SPRINGVALE W.	7	0-1	
EAST ALTONA	MOORABBIN	8	0-2	
E. BRUNS. R.	CLIFTON HILL	9	2-1	
E. RICHMOND	MOOROOLBARK	10	0-2	
NUNAWADING C.	ALTONA CITY	11	2-1	
RINGWOOD C.	REGENT	12	1-5	
ELTHAM UTD	FITZROY CITY	13	5-1	
KEILOR EAGLES	FRANKSTON	14	2-3	
PASCOE VALE	SEAFORD UTD	15	3-2	
SANDRINGHAM	BANYULE	16	1-5	
STH CAUFIELD	MELBOURNE C.	17	PP	
SUNBURY UTD	S. DANDENONG	18	1-8	
BRIGHTON	SUN HEIGHTS	19	1-6	
CORIO	GEELONG	20	2-2	
CRANBOURNE	WILLIAMSTOWN	21	4-0	
LANGWARRIN	STH WANTIRNA	22	2-0	
MONBULK	STONNINGTON	23	PP	
YARRAVILLE	S. SPRINGVALE	24	PP	
BAYSWATER	ATHENA	25	1-3	
INGLEWOOD	SPEARWOOD	26	2-1	
STIRLING LIONS	SORRENTO	27	0-3	
SWAN I.C.	PERTH	28	1-2	
ADELAIDE R.	MODBURY	29	1-0	
BLUE EAGLES	PORT LION	30	2-0	
SALISBURY	CROYDON	31	1-2	
WOODVILLE	CAMPBELLTOWN	32	0-1	
ADELAIDE C.	CUMBERLAND	33	1-1	
ELIZABETH	PARA HILLS	34	2-1	
OLYMPIANS	NOARLUNGA	35	4-3	
PLYMPTON	ENFIELD	36	2-1	
SEAFORD	W. ADELAIDE	37	1-3	
BURNIE	GEORGETOWN	38	5-1	

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 0055 33111 Australia, Wide. Or, Sydney
0055 29043; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07)
11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm.
Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 17/6/95 WEEK 516

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURED	NO. OF WEEKS NUMBER OCCURED
1	1
2	1
3	1
4	1
5	1
6	1
7	1
8	1
9	1
10	1
11	1
12	1
13	1
14	1
15	1
16	1
17	1
18	1
19	1
20	1
21	1
22	1
23	1
24	1
25	1
26	1
27	1
28	1
29	1
30	1
31	1
32	1
33	1
34	1
35	1
36	1
37	1
38	1
39	1
40	1
41	1
42	1
43	1
44	1
45	1
46	1
47	1
48	1
49	1
50	1
51	1
52	1
53	1
54	1
55	1
56	1
57	1
58	1

Results History is from Week 38, the start of six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 516 SAT. JUNE 17, 1995

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):

14, 20, 24, 28, 31, 33.

Supplementary Number 1.

FORM GUIDE FOR WEEK 517

NSW DIVISION ONE	VICTORIA STATE FOUR
P W S D L F A DIF PT	P W D L F A PT
Ryde City 15 10 2 0 3 36 20 16 34	St. Kilda 13 9 3 1 25 15 10 22
Central Coast 14 11 0 0 3 49 10 39 33	Eltham 14 6 4 4 22 21 22
Auburn Utd 15 9 3 0 3 35 20 15 33	Frankston 14 5 1 7 25 26 19
Fairfield Bulls 15 8 2 1 4 33 20 13 29	Pascoe Vale 14 5 2 7 25 26 17
Belmore Her 14 8 2 0 4 30 27 3 28	Banyule 14 5 1 8 27 33 16
Hills United 14 7 2 0 5 24 14 10 25	Fitzroy City 14 4 2 8 11 23 14
Dulwich Hill 15 4 5 1 5 28 17 32 23	Seaforth Utd 14 4 2 8 22 37 14
Minotaur 14 6 2 0 6 18 21 3 22	Sunbury Utd 14 4 1 9 12 32 7
Mt Pritchard 15 4 2 1 8 27 27 0 17	Sandringham 14 0 5 9 11 29 2
W. Wanderers 15 4 2 0 9 20 36 -16 16	Sydney Cosmos 15 3 2 1 9 11 22 -11 14
Liverpool City 15 0 0 0 15 11 74 -63 0	Melb. City 13 7 2 4 23 18 23
	Kelso Eagles 14 5 7 15 10 15 10 22
	Elt. Dia Valley 14 6 4 4 22 21 22
	Sth Caufield 13 6 2 5 14 16 20
	Frankston 14 5 1 7 25 26 19
	Pascoe Vale 14 5 2 7 25 26 17
	Banyule 14 5 1 8 27 33 16
	Fitzroy City 14 4 2 8 11 23 14
	Seaforth Utd 14 4 2 8 22 37 14
	Sunbury Utd 14 4 1 9 12 32 7
	Sandringham 14 0 5 9 11 29 2
NSW DIVISION TWO</th	

Heros of Yesteryear

A look back at some of the memorable players who made their names in past World Cups

GEOFF HURST

1966

**He's The
Only Player
To Have
Scored A
Hat-Trick In
A Final**



HE began the 1966 World Cup, in his native England, on the bench. But Geoff Hurst finished it as the only player to score a hat-trick in a Championship Game.

Hurst first appeared in England's quarter-

final game with Argentina, and scored the only goal. In the Championship Game against West Germany, he began his heroics by tying the score at 1-1, heading home a free-kick taken quickly by England skipper Bobby Moore.

Then, 10 minutes into overtime (the score at the end of regulation was 2-2), Hurst scored the most controversial goal in World Cup history.

After he shot against the underside of the crossbar, the ball bounced down and out of the goal, but the referee ruled that it had crossed the line.

Hurst's third came in the last minute, when he hammered home a shot after being left upfield by a German defence desperate for a goal.



Geoff Hurst (left) in action for England in the 1966 World Cup.

JOHAN CRUYUFF

1974

**He made
people
rethink how
the game
should be
played**

THE DUTCH team of 1974 introduced to the soccer world "Total Football," an ever-shifting style of play in which the rigidity of formation was all but abandoned and players were given freedom to roam, taking up new positions and covering each other wherever and whenever necessary.

No one embodied that style more than Johan Cruyff.



Johan Cruyff in full flight against Uruguay in 1974.

Cruyff was everywhere:

starting attacks

from the rear; roving wide to open up

defences; popping up

in opposing goal-

mouths to score. And

always there was the image of his skinny legs dribbling and bedeviling defenders, or his chest thrust out and his hands directing play. It was a style that demolished Bulgaria and Argentina, eliminated Brazil — and came close to winning it all.

It was Cruyff who burst into the West German goalmouth in the opening minutes of the 1974 final, only to be brought down. Holland scored from the penalty kick, but West Germany would win the day.

Still, it was Cruyff's leadership by example that led many to rethink how soccer should be played.



Johan Cruyff: Parading silverware which accompanied the "total football" concept.

Juventus: 1995 Serie A Champions



BACK ROW (left-right): Alessio Tacchinardi, Fabrizio Ravanelli, Luca Fusi,
Manuel Paulo Sousa, Michelangelo Rampulla.

FRONT ROW: Robert Jarni, Massimo Carrera, Roberto Baggio, Didier Deschamps,
Gianluca Vialli, Angelo Di Livio.

ABS
AUSTRALIAN & BRITISH
SOCCER WEEKLY